



CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
CITY COUNCIL
STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: July 17, 2018
To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
From: City Administration
Subject: Consideration of Request for Reduction of Fees (50%) for Special Event Permit Application. Applicant: Jim Corbett - Mr. Music Peacetown Summer Concert Series
Recommendation : That the City Council Consider the Request for Reduction of Fees
Funding: Currently Budgeted: _____ Yes _____ No XX N/A
Net General Fund Cost:
Amount: \$

INTRODUCTION: This item is to request that the City Council Consider the Request from Jim Corbett (Mr. Music) for a Reduction of Fees (50%) for the Special Event Permit Application for the Mr. Music Peacetown Summer Concert Series

BACKGROUND: California cities are granted the authority to impose user fees and regulatory fees for services and activities they provide through provisions of the State Constitution. A fee may not exceed the estimated reasonable cost of providing the service or performing the activity. It is the intent of the City to collect user fees for services provided to the public, where applicable. User fees will be reviewed and updated annually to ensure that they keep pace with the cost of providing the service.

User fees are designed to reimburse the City for staff time, materials, and equipment use for the service performed. The great majority of user fees are reimbursements to the General Fund with the exception of those fees that are held as a deposit account, with costs will draw from as incurred. With the adoption of the original comprehensive User Fee Schedule in 2002, the City Council adopted a method of recovering costs for specific City services. Each user fee is based on estimates of time required, based on historical experience, current salary and benefits, department overhead, and any special equipment used.

The City Council reviews these fees annually. In October 2017, the City Council discussed and approved the Resolution approving the Current Comprehensive User Fee Schedule. At that meeting, the council discussed permit fees and made minor adjustments which were incorporated into the final resolution.

DISCUSSION: On January 25, 2018, Jim Corbett applied for a special event permit for the 2018 Peacetown Summer Concert Series to be held Every Wednesday Night, from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm at Ives Park. The event is to be held for eleven (11) consecutive Wednesday nights. After review by the City departments, on March 1, 2018, the City of Sebastopol conditionally approved the event subject to certain conditions of approval.

Based upon the approved user fee schedule, the application fees for this event totaled \$10,450.00 with a refundable deposit of \$1000. A breakout of the fees is listed below:

Application Fee, Groups 201+	\$160.00
Use fee 500+ users	\$700.00
Amplified Sound Fee	\$30.00
Alcohol Fee	\$30.00
Stage	\$30.00
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Total Event Fee Per Day	\$950.00
 Refundable Deposit	 \$1000 (for duration of event)

As the event is 11 days, the total fee would be \$950.00 x 11 = \$10,450.00.

In early June, City staff reached out to the applicant to follow up on the conditions of approval. At that time, the applicant requested a reduction of fees based on the City resolution as listed below:

The resolution allows eligible Non-Profit Organizations to apply for a fee reduction/waiver for flat fees only as listed in this user fee schedule and as listed below:

- Fee Reduction (25% Department Head Approval): Not for profit organizations and non-profit entities that have a documented federal tax-exempt status are eligible to apply for a twenty five percent (25%) reduction of fees. Such fee reduction shall be submitted to the Department Head of fee holder for final determination. Such fee shall not exceed \$500.00 in total reduction/waiver of fees.
- Fee Reduction (50% City Manager Approval): Not for profit organizations and non-profit entities that have a documented federal tax-exempt status are eligible to apply for a fifty percent (50%) reduction of fees. Such fee reduction shall be submitted to the Department Head of fee holder for final determination. Such fee shall not exceed \$1000.00 in total reduction/waiver of fees.

The City Manager authorized approval of a fee reduction of \$1000 (the total allowed by this resolution). However, since that time, the applicant has requested the City Council review his request for a reduction of fees of 50%. City staff informed the applicant that the earliest Council meeting this could be addressed at would be July 17th. Therefore, the applicant submitted to the City of Sebastopol a check in the amount of \$3800.00 to cover the first month of the concert series (July) as well as a \$1000 refundable deposit until such time that the Council could act upon his request for a fee reduction in the amount of 50% which is a fee reduction of \$5225.00.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council Consider the Request from Jim Corbett (Mr. Music) for a Reduction of Fees (50%) in the amount of \$5225.00 for the Special Event Permit Application for the Mr. Music Peacetown Summer Concert Series.

Attachment:

- Letter from Jim Corbett for Fee Reduction – June 2018
- Email from Jim Corbett for Fee Reduction - July 6, 2018



Larry McLaughlin
c/o Sebastopol City Hall
P.O. Box 1776
Sebastopol, CA 95472

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Re: Reduced Fees for Peacetown Concerts

Larry,

This letter is to request a significant reduction in fees for the use of Ives Park for our Peacetown Summer Concert Series. As you well know, this event has been very popular since it's inception seven years ago and the City of Sebastopol has been a prime sponsor of the event. Every week we get from 800-1000 folks to enjoy free music, refreshments and food trucks, in a safe, family friendly environment. We request a reduction in fees for the Mr. Music Foundation, which is the non-profit entity that promotes this event.

Last year the Mr. Music Foundation provided classroom music to 2500 elementary school students every week and promoted "Ukes for Kids" in our afterschool programs. We employed over 100 local musicians who performed in concert, and raised over \$35K for the victims of the wild fires. The Mr. Music Foundation also made a contribution of \$1000 each to the Fire Department and the Police Officer's Fund. We will continue to provide quality music in our schools and community.

We would greatly appreciate a reduction in the rental fee for the park each week, as this is a major expense for the show. Perhaps, a fee reduction could be rolled into the community grant. Thanks for your consideration.

Gratefully
Jim Corbett
Jim Corbett
"Mr. Music"

Thanks Larry
Jim Corbett
Mr. Music
S

Mary Gourley

From: Jim Corbett <jimcorbett22@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, July 06, 2018 9:06 PM
To: Patrick Slayter; neysacouncil@gmail.com; Sarah Gurney; Michael Carnacchi; Una JM Glass
Cc: Mary Gourley
Subject: Fee reduction for Peacetown

Dear Friendly Council Members,

I am sending this letter to the City of Sebastopol for consideration as an agenda item at an upcoming Board meeting. Thank you for your consideration of my request. I hope to see you all at the Peacetown Summer Concert Series. The first one was big fun.

July 3, 2018

Mayor Patrick Slayter

Sarah Glade Gurney

Michael Carnacchi

Una Glass

Neysa Hinton

Re: Fee reduction for Peacetown Concert Series

Dear City Council Members

The Mr. Music Foundation would like to request a reduction in the fees for renting Ives Park for our Peacetown Summer Concert Series. This event has become a popular and fun summer tradition in Sebastopol and I appreciate the City of Sebastopol being a co sponsor and supporter of this event. The fees for the use of Ives Park have gone up from \$250 per week to almost \$900 per week. I am very grateful for the Community Grant of \$10,000.00 from the City, but almost all of this is eaten up in fees for the use of the park. I believe the intention of the Community Grant is to help stage the summer concerts, and not just swap the money from City of Sebastopol to Mr. Music Foundation and back to City of Sebastopol. Therefore, I respectfully request the City Council consider a 50% reduction in the current fees.

Thank you for considering this reduction. We will see all of you in Peacetown this summer. "It's a Beautiful Place to BE!"

Gratefully,

Jim Corbett

(707)508-5449

Jim Corbett
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