



City of Jefferson

220 N Chestnut St., Jefferson, IA 50129-1900 515-386-3111

11/6/2020

Re: Cardboard collection fees

When the City of Jefferson began the recycling program. In the 1990's, the City was able to provide dumpsters and collect cardboard from commercial businesses without charging any fees. At the time, the City could sell the cardboard for a small profit which was enough to cover the costs to collect it. In the last 5 years the market for cardboard has completely disappeared where it now costs the City \$65.00 a ton for a recycling center to take the cardboard. The City utilized reserves to pay for the shortfall in the hopes the cardboard market may improve. However, the recycling market shows no signs of improvement.

As a means of covering costs, it is necessary for the City of Jefferson to begin charging for the collection of cardboard at commercial businesses. The charges will be determined by the size of the dumpster and how many times it is emptied each month. Commercial businesses that do not have a dumpster will be charged on the estimated size of a dumpster that would be needed. Finally, commercial businesses that do not require frequent collection may request the City to collect the cardboard on an as needed basis of \$20 per collection for up to 2 cubic yards. The proposed ordinance language addressing commercial cardboard collection has been placed on the back of this letter.

Separating the cardboard will be about 30% cheaper than having it removed as solid waste.

The City Council will be voting on an ordinance in November and December of 2020 with any fee increases scheduled to go into effect on in the February 2021 bills. Please feel free to contact City Hall at 386-3111 with any questions and comments.

3. Commercial Cardboard Collection. The fees for collection of cardboard from commercial premises shall be:

A. A monthly charge shall be made for the collection of cardboard from commercial premises where dumpsters are used, which shall be calculated by multiplying the number of pickups per month (which shall be determined by multiplying the normal number of pickups per week times four) times the following amounts, based on the size of dumpster picked up:

<u>Size</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>1 yard</u>	<u>\$ 4.80</u>
<u>1½ yards.....</u>	<u>\$ 5.60</u>
<u>2 yards.....</u>	<u>\$ 6.40</u>
<u>2½ yards.....</u>	<u>\$ 7.20</u>
<u>3 yards.....</u>	<u>\$ 7.95</u>

B. A monthly charge shall be made for the collection of cardboard from commercial premises where dumpsters are not used which charge shall be calculated in the same as for customers where dumpsters are used based on the estimated size dumpster made by City staff that would be needed for the cardboard picked up.

C. Commercial customers who do not require weekly or more frequent collection of cardboard may request the City to collect their cardboard on an as needed basis in which case they will be charged a minimum fee of \$20.00 per collection for up to 2 cubic yards.