



Memorandum

To: William Lichter, Village Manager
From: Pat Rollins, Deputy Chief of Police
Date: 12/10/2011
Re: Collection of Fines/Bail/Bonds and other Fees

The Lombard Police Department currently collects bond and other monies for traffic violators and arrestees. Cash bond, I-Bonds, Drivers License and bond cards have been the acceptable method to release a violator or arrestee on their specific offense.

The DuPage Circuit Clerk's office granted local agencies the ability to collect funds through credit card transactions. They have authorized a company, Government Payment Services, Inc (also known as GPS) to facilitate the process through the credit cards. GPS charges on top of the full amount a surcharge. Other municipalities in DuPage County have followed suit in collecting bonds via credit cards as an alternative option. (Naperville, Sheriffs office, Bensenville, Addison, Woodridge, Wooddale, Willowbrook, Wheaton, and Clarendon Hills currently are using GPS)

Allowing credit cards to be charged for this purpose helps expedite the processing release time of offenders and violators. Offenders who do not have the cash on them or have access to the cash after banking hours would be held at the police department for hours until someone was able to raise the necessary funds to bond them out. Now through GPS we anticipate the holding/wait time on prisoners to move quicker for those who have available credit lines on their credit cards. Each municipality is required to sign off on the agreement with GPS to utilize their services in this matter. The clerk's office receives the funds via a bank transfer the next business day from GPS. Any credit card that is contested by the card holder deals with GPS. The clerk's office or the village would receive the money as if it were cash.

Staff recommends that we enter into an agreement with Government Payment Services.