

DEMAND FEES

A demand fee is added to a Real Estate, Personal Property or Motor Vehicle Excise tax bill once the bill has become delinquent. Adding the demand fee generates a second bill that is mailed to the taxpayer as a reminder of the unpaid bill. Carlisle's fee for demand bills has been \$5.00 since before 1987. The demand fee itself can vary from \$5.00 to as much as \$30.00 according to Mass. General Laws, Ch. 60, Section 15. Increasing this fee requires Town Meeting approval. The Select Board and Finance Committee have agreed to increase this fee to \$15.00.

PROS

1. Increased revenue for the Town of Carlisle. Demand fees have remained at \$5.00 for over 38 years. In comparing several area municipalities, the average demand fee is \$15.00.

MUNICIPALITY	DEMAND FEE
ACTON	\$15.00
AYER	\$5.00
BILLERICA	\$15.00
BOXBOROUGH	\$10.00
CHELMSFORD	\$30.00
CONCORD	\$10.00
GROTON	\$10.00
LANCASTER	\$15.00
LITTLETON	\$30.00
SHIRLEY	\$20.00
WESTFORD	\$10.00

2. A higher demand fee will increase collection rates as taxpayers would prefer to avoid these fees, resulting in more bills being paid on time.
3. Increasing the fee would aid in covering the ever-increasing costs of preparing and mailing of the demand bills.

CONS

1. Additional fee for those who don't pay their bills timely.