Keeping Control Over Online Customer Payments

NH Government Finance Officers Association

Annual Conference May 2-3, 2019

- Vicki Lee, Deputy Finance Director, City of Lebanon
- Betsy McClain, Director of Administrative Services,
 Town of Hanover

Credit Card Reconciliation

Over the Counter Purchases for clerks, water/sewer, taxes
Online Purchases for vital records and dog licensing



Online Purchases for vehicle registration, taxes, water/sewer

InvoiceCloud

Counter credit card terminal



City Clerk Tax Collector Water/Sewer

The City implemented Interware (integrated with MuniSmart Software) where the customer pays the processing fee. The first transaction (swiping of the card) is the fee charged to the customer and the second is the monies due to the City.

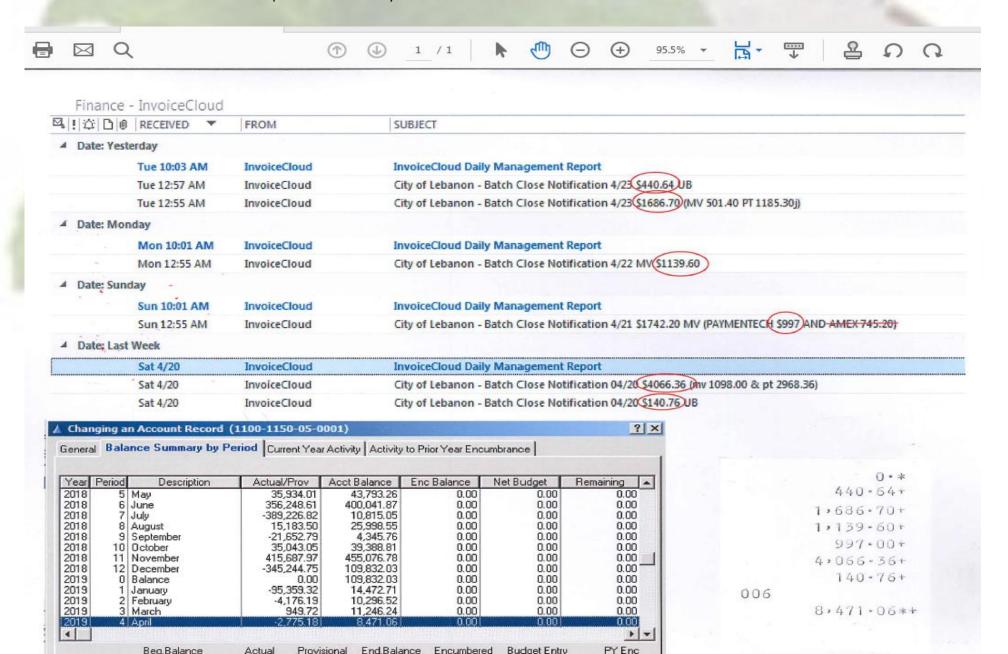
The City implemented Invoice Cloud (integrated with MuniSmart Software) where the City absorbs the ACH fees; customer pays convenience fees directly to Invoice Cloud – all Invoice Cloud transactions occur via web. These payments are imported daily into our software (Munismart) system.

 Invoice Cloud transactions can have a maintenance window that does not accept payments to be made, we chose the hours from 11PM to Midnight for balancing purposes.

 Interware transactions: 	Bank	Receipt
8PM cutoff	X	X
8PM - Midnight		X
Midnight cutoff*	X	X

^{*}Disadvantage: ACH doesn't hit bank next day

Notifications of resident payments stating the amounts that have been processed the previous day are emailed to the Finance Department daily.

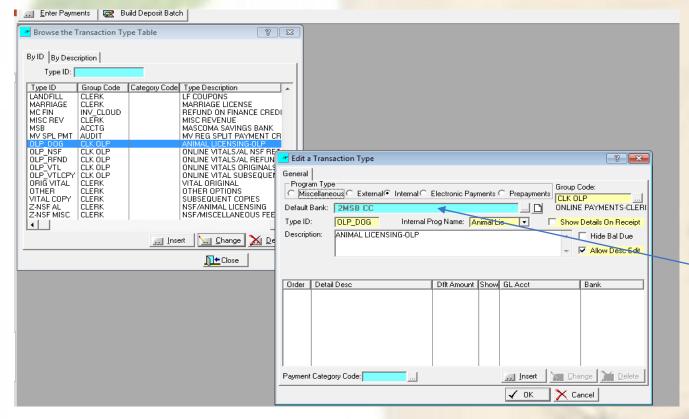


CLERK OLINE PAYMENTS PROCEDURES

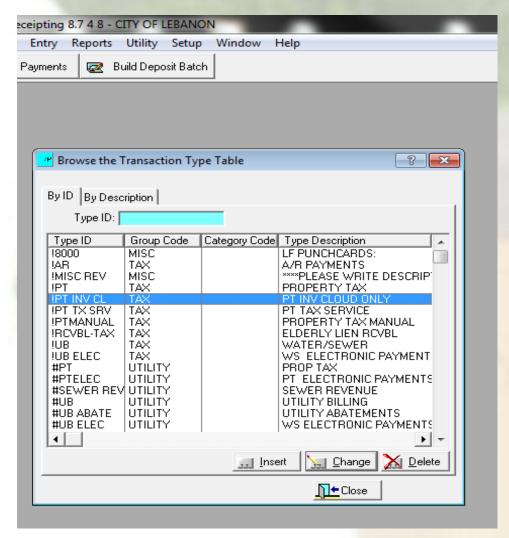
A report is generated by EB2.gov for dog license renewals and vital records. The clerks receive an online payment report daily.

An ACH batch is created (2 days)
A Credit Card batch is created (1 day)

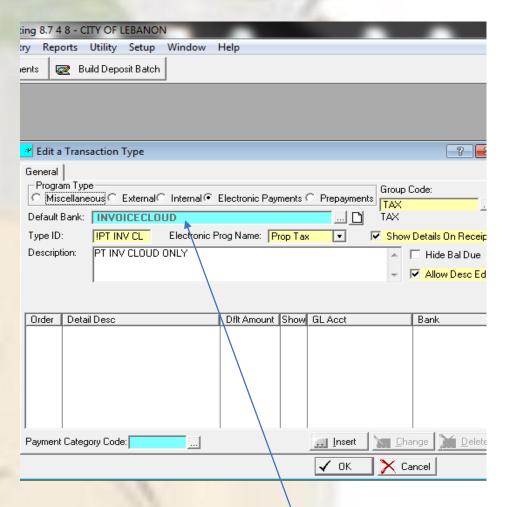
Enter all dog renewals thru the OLP_DOG Enter all Vitals thru OLP_VTL



Interware credit card "Bank ID" which is a cash account set up in General Ledger



In Cash Receipting, we have a PT INV CL ID.

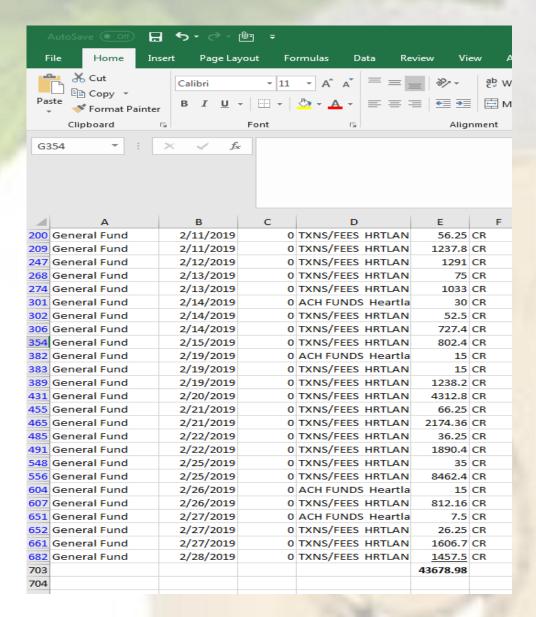


Set up the "Default Bank" \
INVOICE CLOUD which was set up for receivable purposes only

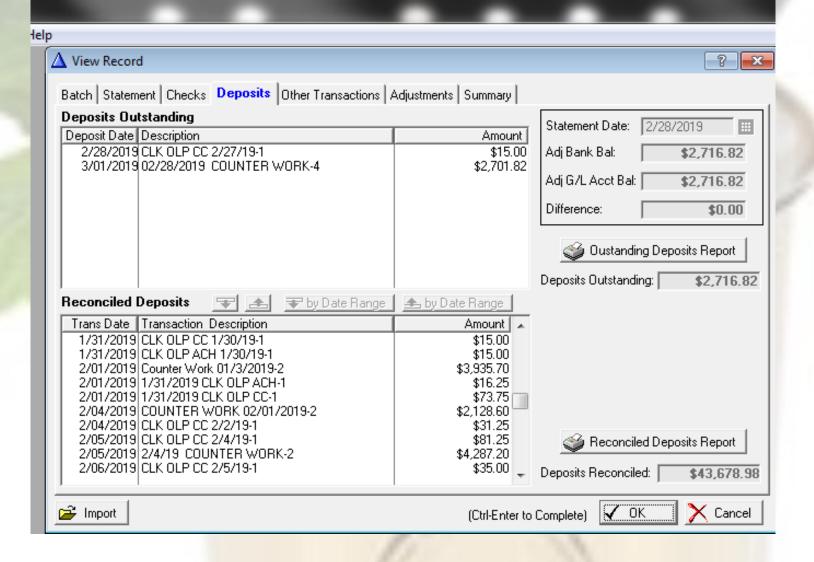
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			95911					,598.						979.	
			95988					,387.						592.	
		Check						,447.						145.	
			95909					,858.						286.	
			95939			_	229	,201.	. 52		45.00			085.	
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Heartland Payments are for over the counter transactions as well as dogs and vitals online. Paymentech is Invoice Cloud motor vehicle, taxes, water/sewer payments made online.

I download my bank statement to excel and filter on Heartland transactions. I credit the cash account set up for Interware credit cards and debit cash.



As stated previously, Heartland is for online purchases for vitals and dogs and inhouse over the counter transactions.



There is a journal entry that then needs to be done that credits cash and debits the cash-Interware credit card account to clear out all credit cards that were actually deposited during the month.

Off to the Races with Credit Cards!

Reining in Bank Account Reconciliations

All types of payments are out of the gate and racing towards our bank account...

• Cash and Checks – still predominant, but labor intensive and most risk

• Direct Bank Debits – PayMode, ACH 'checks' becoming S.O.P. for many large corporations who simply don't write checks anymore

• Credit Card Payments ... a horse of many colors

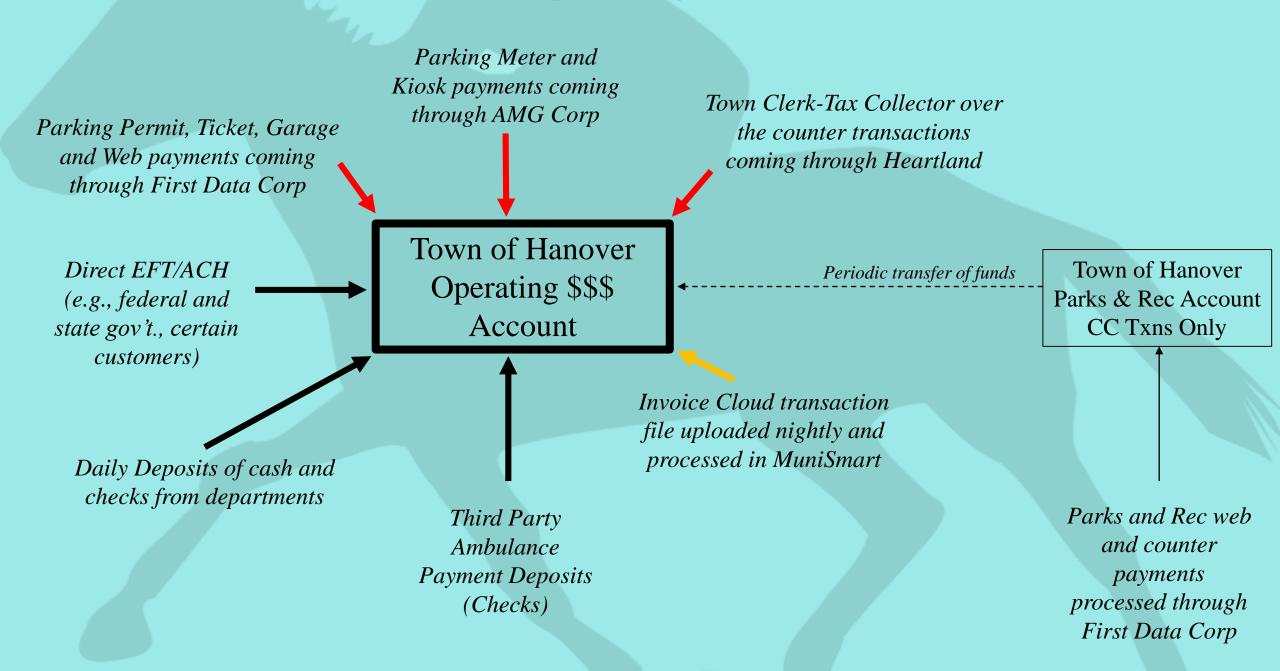
Our customers were (and are) chomping at the bit to use their credit cards ...

- 1. Our Parking Operations, a separate enterprise fund, began accepting credit cards in the office and absorbing fees in 2006; expanded to parking meters and kiosks
 - ✓ Cautionary tale re adding on explicit convenience fees we were busted by MasterCard!
- 2. Added tax and utility payments through OfficialPayments.com in 2008
- 3. Town Clerk-Tax Collector implemented Invoice Cloud (integrated with MuniSmart software) where Town absorbs the ACH fees; customer pays 2.75% convenience fees directly to Invoice Cloud all Invoice Cloud transactions occur via web
 - ✓ Many, many ACH transactions save us lots of time as these payments are auto updated into MS

Our customers were (and are) chomping at the bit to use their credit cards ...

- 4. Parks & Recreation accepts credit cards through its registration software; we created a separate bank account just for these transactions as a trial
 - ✓ Customer transaction is grossed up by 2.75% to cover processing fees usage is incredibly high for after school program and other youth activity registrations, fees do not appear to be an issue here
- 5. Added over-the-counter credit card option via Interware for Town Clerk-Tax Collector
 - ✓ 2.79% fee explicitly charged to customer rung through first as these funds do not come to Town
 - ✓ Second transaction run through for monies due to Town

All Trails Lead to the Town's Operating Cash Account



Not gonna lie ... the bank rec was initially a night-mare

- Each merchant location directly crediting bank account separately for AMEX vs. MC vs. DISC
- Fees trotting all over our bank account at the beginning of the month per merchant location, by type of fee, what is interchange anyway?

Trans	actions By	y Date Posted			Transactions By Date Posted	
Date	Descript:	ion	Withdrawals	Deposits	Date Description Withdrawals	Deposits
3/04	DEPOSIT	FRST BK MRCH SVC 982027804888		191.00	Date Description Withdrawals 3/04 INTERCHNG FRST BK MRCH SVC 91.34 CCD 982027816882	
3/04	DEPOSIT	y Date Posted ion FRST BK MRCH SVC 982027804888 FRST BK MRCH SVC		345.25	3/04 FEE FRST BK MRCH SVC 110.13 CCD 982161732887	
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3/04	CCD	498276868888		1,169.50	CCD 498276868888 3/04 Transfer To Sweep R A 4,958.28	
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3/04	DEPOSIT	MERCHANT BANKCD		1,660.40	3/04 Check 47048 23.06	
3/04	DEPOSIT	FRST BK MRCH SVC		1,672.00	CCD 498276868888 3/04 Transfer To Sweep R A 4,958.28 3/04 Check 46990 38.50 3/04 Check 46951 12,012.00 3/04 Check 47048 23.06 3/04 Check 46945 208.80 3/04 Check 46994 36,143.33 3/05 Trsf from Parks n Recreation Reduce bal in P&R account	55 000 00
3/04	DEPOSIT	982027816882 MERCHANT BANKCD		1,679.05	Reduce bal in P&R account	55,000.00
3/04	TRANSFER	MERCHANT BANKCD 498276868888 PAYMENTECH Invoi0001223068 FRST BK MRCH SVC 982161732887		1,913.81	3/05 DEPOSIT MERCHANT BANKCD	15.30
3/04	CCD	Invoi0001223068 FRST BK MRCH SVC		1,935.00	3/05 TXNS/FEES HRTLAND PMT SYS	239.40
3/04	CCD	982161732887 FRST BK MRCH SVC		3 183 00	CCD 65000010308305 3/05 DEPOSIT FRST BK MRCH SVC	810.00
2/04	CCD	982161732887		1 400 00	CCD 982161732887 3/05 TRANSFER PAYMENTECH	1,781.40
3/04	Deposit	From DDA Sweep		3,643.63	CCD Invoi0001223068	1.925.75
3/04 3/04	Deposit Deposit			4,319.35 33,756.77	Confirmation number 305190095 3/05 DEPOSIT MERCHANT BANKCD CCD 498276868888 3/05 TXNS/FEES HRTLAND PMT SYS CCD 650000010308305 3/05 DEPOSIT FRST BK MRCH SVC CCD 982161732887 3/05 TRANSFER PAYMENTECH CCD Invoi0001223068 3/05 HCCLAIMPMT NGS, INC. CCD 1497852487 TRN*1*890302578*1351840597~	_,
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3/04	220000112	THE DIT THEOR DIE	16.79		3/05 MOTOR VER TOWN OF HANOVER 1,431.50	69,859.09
3/04	DISCOUNT	982027804888 FRST BK MRCH SVC	17.23		CCD 0534 3/05 TAXPAYMENT TOWN OF HANOVER 3,444.57	
3/04	FEE	982027816882 FRST BK MRCH SVC 982027804888	45.46		CCD WHT10063280 3/05 TAXPAYMENT TOWN OF HANOVER 84,702.17 CCD 026000371	
3/04	DISCOUNT		85.58			

We were out of the stable before we fine-tuned our reconciliation process; uh ...wouldn't necessarily recommend this

- We tried to pare down number of merchant locations with First Data didn't understand implications
- redesigned our cash-up sheets so that debits to cash accounts would be distinct for credit cards, cash and checks, and EFTs/ACHs
- Deposits are posted every day as quickly and timely as possible
- Credit card fee are reviewed and submitted for processing as cash journals before the 10th of every month

We were out of the stable before we fine-tuned our reconciliation process; uh ...wouldn't necessarily recommend this

- Our appointed Treasurer, a full time employee, reconciles the credit card transactions weekly, as her schedule allows
- With new contracts and arrangments, we are looking at how we can avoid managing fees so that third party handles these separately (Interware-2018; ParkMobile-2019)
- Wish we had offered Interware over-the counter solution years ago; we will be rolling this out to our Permitting Office and our Library within the year

TOWN CLER	K - TAX COLLECTOR CASH SETTLEM	ENT	
PREPARED BY		Date	
DEPARTMENT HEAD APPROVAL		Date	
I. CASH ANI	CHECKS COLLECTED		
	# OF CHECKS (ATTACH CALCULATOR TAPE)		
DO NOT STAPLE CHECKS TO COVER SHEETS	TOTAL ALL CHECKS(SEPARATE STUBS FROM CHECKS)	\$	
	TOTAL CASH	\$	
	TOTAL COIN	\$	
TOTAL CASH/COIN DEP	OSIT TO BE PHYSICALLY DEPOSITED IN BANK	\$	
II. ELECTRONIC PAYME	NTS PROCESSED IN MUNISMART		
	INVOICE CLOUD PAYMENTS	\$	
	HEARTLAND/INTERWARE CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS	\$	
	FIRST DATA PARKING FUND CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS	\$	
I DARTMOUTH A	AND OTHER EFT'S; OFFICIAL PAYMENTS; MISC ELEC PYMTS	\$	
TOTAL ELECT	ONIC DEPOSITS POSTED TO BANK DIRECTLY	\$	
GRAND TOTAL DEPOSIT OF CASH AND G	OTHER COLLECTIONS PROCESSED IN MUNISMART	s	
THIS SHOULD TIE TO TOTAL	CREDITS TO BE RECORDED AS OFFSET TO CASH DEPOSITS		
	TO BE COMPLETED BY ACCOUNTING		
RECEIVED BY/VERIFIED BY		DATE RECEIVED	

Now that I'm a little hoarse, I'll stop;

... but don't be a neigh-sayer: offer credit cards to your customers - and you're Off to the Races with Credit Cards!

Keeping Control Over Online Customer Payments

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• Betsy McClain, Director of Administrative Services, Town of Hanover

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