
City Council Regular Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Fire
FROM: Casey Davis, Assistant Fire Chief
MEETING: January 22, 2024

SUBJECT:

Consider approval of an ordinance amending the City's fee schedule ordinance for Fiscal Year 2023-24 (CSO#5218-09-2023) by adding fees associated with emergency medical and ambulance services. (Final Reading) (*Staff Presenter: Casey Davis, Assistant Fire Chief*)

SUMMARY:

The City's emergency medical and ambulance services fees are listed in two different places – the Emergency Medical and Ambulance Services Billing Policy and the City's fee schedule ordinance. For any amendments to fees in the billing policy to take effect, the City Council must also amend the City's fee schedule. The purpose of this agenda item is to amend the City's fee schedule ordinance in the same manner as the Emergency Medical and Ambulance Services Billing Policy.

On December 12, 2022, the City entered into an agreement with Emergicon, LLC, for specialized professional ambulance billing services. Emergicon is contracted to provide billing and claims management services for the City's emergency medical and ambulance services.

On April 17, 2023, the City Council passed and approved Resolution No. CSO#5077-04-2023, adopting an emergency medical and ambulance services billing policy. The original billing policy underwent an amendment on August 21, 2023 (CSO#5191-08-2023) to align with Senate Bill 2476 and all other applicable laws. The amended resolution introduced a minor adjustment to the existing billing policy, specifying that any balance billing must comply with all state and federal laws.

The current amendment presented to the council aims to incorporate a fee schedule addressing non-emergent ALS and BLS transports that occur on occasion. According to the policy of Burleson Fire/EMS, non-emergency inter-facility transports are delegated to CareFlite. However, in cases of elevated call volume or when a transport is reclassified as non-emergency during billing processing, Burleson Fire/EMS may occasionally handle these transports. In such instances, the proposed fee schedule is crucial for collecting fees associated with these transports.

The recommended fee schedule is in line with regional billing expectations for these services, based on the advice of Emergicon.

OPTIONS:

- 1) Approve as presented
- 2) Approve with changes
- 3) Deny

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve as presented

PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):

January 8, 2024, the City Council passed the proposed amended fee schedule ordinance on first reading and separately approved an amended Emergency Medical and Ambulance Services Billing Policy.

September 11, 2023, the City Council passed the City's fee schedule ordinance for FY 23-24 (CSO#5218-09-2023).

August 21, 2023, CSO#5191-08-2023 A Resolution of The City Council of the City of Burleson, Texas, Amending Resolution CSO#5077-04-2023 by Adopting an Amended Emergency Medical and Ambulance Services Billing Policy.

On April 17, 2023, the City Council passed and approved Resolution No. CSO#5077-04-2023, adopting an emergency medical and ambulance services billing policy.

FISCAL IMPACT:

n/a

STAFF CONTACT:

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