
Choose an item.

DEPARTMENT: Fire
FROM: K.T. Freeman, Fire Chief
MEETING: August 7, 2023

SUBJECT:

Consider approval of a resolution amending Resolution CSO#5077-04-2023 by adopting an amended emergency medical and ambulance services billing policy. (*Staff Presenter: K.T. Freeman, Fire Chief*)

SUMMARY:

On December 12, 2022, the City entered into an agreement for specialized professional ambulance billing services with Emergicon, LLC for Emergicon 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 that adopted an emergency medical and ambulance services billing policy. On June 18, 2023, however, the 88th Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 2476 that amended the Insurance Code to prohibit emergency medical providers from engaging in the practice of balance billing patients with specific types of insurance policies. The bill is effective as of September 1, 2023. To ensure compliance with Senate Bill 2476 and all other applicable laws, the proposed resolution makes a minor adjustment to the current billing policy by specifying that any balance billing must be compliant with all state and federal laws.

When presenting the proposed resolution to the City Council, City staff will discuss the implications Senate Bill 2476 will have on billing practices, procedures, and collections. The Texas EMS industry generally viewed Senate Bill 2476 positively and supported its passage, and City staff feels, after talking to Emergicon and other industry sources, that the bill will have a minor yet positive impact on the City's billing practices, procedures, and collections.

OPTIONS:

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

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve as presented

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

n/a

FISCAL IMPACT:

n/a

STAFF CONTACT:

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