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1	8/8/2023	Tyson Begly	Fire and EMS I had two follow-upsg from slide 7 of the Fire EMS PowerPoint the last meeting: https://mccmeetingspublic.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/colummeet-9989af2150264ee3a984571dda5c6614/ITEM-Attachme 001-97400da668ce4bf79d68029ba871e2ef.pdf:  - Numbers on the Medicare/Medicaid clearing house, to know how much to put in and the additional level of coverage received.  Numbers of how much a private billing service would cost, and the amount of money it would save, and the potential impact to our accounts receivable  Response: Please see the attached response from the fire department.  CFEMS Memo on Referral - Begly Aug Fire/EMS Department is in the process of developing an RFP privatize ambulance billing. Private billing services costs will be determined once the RFP process is complete.	Angelica Alexander  do  to
			As of FY23, 9,668 ambulance claims were processed and billed The billed breakdown for claims processed is as follows:	ed.

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Medicare 18.92%	
Medicaid 17.90%	
Primary 23.46%	
Self-Pay 35.99%	
Write off 3.73%	
The claims paid breakdown is as follows:	
Medicare 53.86%	
Medicaid 20.71%	
Primary 19.91%	
Self-Pay 5.52%	
Update	
"As 75% of all claims go through Medicare or Medicaid, CCG should consider contributing to the Medicare/Medicaid clearing	

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			house which would then provide an additional level of cover for our submitted claims."	rage
			The Fire-EMS Department does <i>not</i> do EMS billing. That is manage the Finance Department. However, I can provide the following information:	ed in
			<ul> <li>Each year, the City is asked if they wish to participate in the Georgia Ground Ambulance UPL (upper payment limit) Supplemental Payment Program. As noted in the attached, purpose of the supplemental payment is to provide addition Medicaid reimbursement to ensure access to ambulance services for Medicaid enrollees. The supplemental paymen addition to the claim payment a provider receives when submitting FFS (fee for service) claims for ambulance servi The program was recently approved by the federal Centers Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The program has effective for services provided on and after January 1, 2020 Participation in the program is voluntary and requires the ci provide information to Myers &amp; Stauffer LC (certified public accountants) each year as the program administrator in the form of a survey instrument.</li> </ul>	the al t is in ces. for been ). ty to
			Twice a year, the City would provide an intergovernmental transfer (IGT) to the state of Georgia based on the results of survey data. Subsequently, the Georgia Department of Community Health will make a Medicaid payment to the Cit	

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			<ul> <li>that includes both the transferred funds and the matching federal funds.</li> <li>Since its inception, the City has elected <i>not</i> to participate ir program (thus foregoing those dollars). The challenge, as I understand it, is that in order for the city to know how much money it needs to 'put up' in order to get the extra funds, th data survey must be completed annually. That <i>has to</i> be do the Finance Department as Fire-EMS is not privy to the information requested. The dollar amount that would be required is not static and is dependent on Medicare/Medica billing for the year. Additionally, supplemental funding is on available when Medicare/Medicaid is the primary payor (an the secondary). Thus, because of the ambiguity surroundin funding component and the requisite work required to compthe survey instrument, <i>I believe</i> the City has been reluctant commit to the program. As such, at this time, I do not think know how much the contribution would be for our submitted claims. Finance would need to complete the <u>survey instrumannually</u> to be able to provide that information.</li> <li>Notwithstanding this, the Fire-EMS Department has maintat that participation in the program would enhance revenue for city and would help offset costs associated with the EMS program. In 2022, the Fire-EMS department engaged the PC Consulting Group (PCG) to evaluate potential revenues associated with implementation of a Ground Emergency Medical Trasport (GEMT) program (quite similar to what the State of Georgia is offering). Based on the data we were all provide, the PCG estimated we would receive a little over \$\frac{3}{3} million annually. Those estimates were based off of FY21 defining annually. Those estimates were based off of fY21 defining annually.</li> </ul>	e ne in  id y d not g the elete to we l ent  ined r the ublic eleto 2.5

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			and the utilization of 6 CFEMS ambulances. As noted in the Based EMS Report, that number could be significantly high Fire-EMS assumes more ambulance control in the City. As result, this component is a strong recommendation for implementation in conjunction with an enterprise fund to off costs associated with managing EMS services in the comm—which was ranked at the number #1 concern of residents the department's community based strategic planning initia.  To be clear, the Fire-EMS Department currently has nothing to do to EMS billing/collections other than to provide the patient care report that allow for billing/collections services relative to EMS. We work hin-hand with Finance to provide the information they require (as out in the auditor's report). However, all billing/collection functions are currently managed within that department. Please let me know if this additional information I can provide or answer any questions. The you!  Order Letter.pdf  Mr. Begly—	er as a set aunity in tive. with s aand- cline ere	

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			The Finance Director has provided some information for us to revie	w as
			it pertains to the Medicare/Medicaid clearinghouse and potential IG payments. Once my EMS Chief returns from vacation, I will sit dow with him to review the information and follow-up with her on any questions we may have. As I understand it, we will need to create a account with the GA Department of Community Health's accounting to facilitate the uploading of documents and completion of forms associated with this program. At this point, I believe we can only up	n g firm
			Once the submittal is reviewed by the accounting firm and approve they will indicate the amount of the IGT that we will need to post an what we can expect in terms of matching federal funds return. The following example (only) is provided based on the FFY21 Federal Medical Assistance Percentage of 73.23% [67.03% + 6.2% PHE] for and total payment \$100:	d
			<ul> <li>CCG transfers \$26.77 to DCH (state share). Transfer funds must be eligible for federal matching funds und 42 CFR \$\$433.50 thru 433.67.</li> <li>DCH pays \$100 to CCG that includes \$73.23 in federal matching funds</li> </ul>	der
			Thus, I do not believe we will have a better understanding of how me will need to contribute in order to get the federal funds until the	

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		<u> </u>	(calendar) questor of 2024. Once that information is available, we wa	au au
			(calendar) quarter of 2024. Once that information is available, we we certainly pass it along. Any payments will likely require Council appeand have to meet the federal guidelines for timely submittal.	
			The program currently in use by the State of GA is a 'fee for service model. As this process moves forward, I believe we need to evaluate the implementation of a 'managed care' model which can be far moducrative for the City. Moreover, I continue to strongly advocate for evaluation of an enterprise fund to capture and divert some these for the help offset costs for EMS service. If we are poised to receive functionabove and beyond what we have traditionally received for EMS services, I would love to see those funds re-invested into the very program that has been identified as the highest priority by our interesternal and community stakeholders (CFEMS Strategic Plan, pp.1 18). Additionally, as the determination is made relative to funding for indigent care, I am hopeful there will be an avenue to explore off-se some EMS care costs as the first provider of care for many of these individuals. I realize that is a discussion for another forum; but I this would help alleviate pressure on the general fund moving forward.	te ore the unds ds  nal, 7- or etting
			I have attached a data sheet that discusses the proposed supplement program for your review. There are many fire agencies are the country recognizing millions of dollars in additional revenue with similar programs. I am hopeful we can begin to recognize this reversite am with this program. I will follow-up with additional information once we have a better understanding of the program costs. In the	ound n nue

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interim, please do not hesitate to contact me with any additional questions you may have. Thank you kindly! Supplemental\_Paym ent\_Programs\_Data\_ Salvatore J. Scarpa Fire-EMS Chief Columbus Fire & EMS 510 10<sup>th</sup> Street Columbus, GA 31901 (706) 653-3500 **Update: 10/27/2023** An RFP to outsource EMS billing has been issued and is out for bid. **Update:** 11/8/2023 I will be meeting with the Finance Director to identify options we can provide to Council in December relative to EMS billing reconciliation

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			The Fire-EMS Department does not expect any other updates on Medicaid clearinghouse information until late in Q1/Y24  Salvatore J. Scarpa Fire-EMS Chief  Columbus Fire & EMS  510 10 <sup>th</sup> Street  Columbus, GA 31901  (706) 653-3500	
2	8/8/2023	Toyia Tucker	Crime Prevention Grants Request a breakdown and definition of the cost of personnel.  Response: This matter is currently under review. A response is expected soon.	Seth Brown
3	8/8/2023	Tyson Begly	Integrated Waste  How will we account for holidays where we will have large pickups, such as Christmas? Also, suggest a financial analysis of fees and why they will increase.  Response:	Lisa Goodwin Drale Short

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			Residents will be able to obtain additional carts once approve Council. Off Site Recycling trailers are available for our reside use whenever they have excess cardboard, paper, etc. Finar Analysis on rates based on privatization or internal services is being done by our consultant. An RFP to advertise is being formulated to incorporate various options:	ent to ncial
			Option A: Yard Waste Collection Only	
			Option B: Household Waste Collection Only	
			Option C: Recycling Collection Only	
			Option D: Household and Recycling Waste Only	
			Option E: Bulk Waste Only	
			Option F: All Collection Services (Household, Recycling, Yard Waste and Bulk Waste)	d
4	8/29/23	Tyson Begly	Inspections & Code  Is there a possibility to hire a third party to issue in-person citations to out-of-state parcel owners?	Pam Hodge Ryan Pruett

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			Response	
			State law does allow citations to be mailed to out-of-state own However, if the owner fails to appear in court the only option is the city to abate the nuisance. In my opinion, the cost to hire a third party far outweighs any benefit that would come from it	s for
			Update	
			Mayor	
			Hi everyone,	
			Let me know if we need to meet in person, but I want to make sure we chase down the cost to issue in-person citations to or of-state owners. I just want to focus on the cost of issuing a citation to a single property owner.	
			Thanks,	
			Tyson	

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5	8/29/23	Judy Thomas	Park Facilities Update Facilities Personnel  Would like a program to pull trade graduates in from Columbus Tech and Jordan.  Response:  The matter is still under review. A response is expected soon.	Lisa Goodwin Drale Short Reather Hollowell
6	8/29/23	Toyia Tucker	Parks and Recreation Update  Requests that we see if Ft Moore is willing to donate exercise equipment to our rec centers since we are in need of updated equipment.  Response:  We have reached out to Ft. Moore on two separate occasions, and they have not responded as of 9-20-23.	Isaiah Hugley Lisa Goodwin Holli Browder
7	8/29/23	Charmaine Crabb	Parks and Recreation Update  Requests that a day of work or weekend of work be coordinated for citizens in Heath Park  Response:	Lisa Goodwin Holli Browder

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8	9/12/23	Tyson Begly	Councilor Crabb sent Holli an email on 9-18-23 stating that she had reached out to the homeowners association and would get back with us. As of 9-20-23, we have not heard back from Councilor Crabb.  Update 10/24/23  Councilor Crabb is working on getting a grant from the Georgia Association of Realtors to fund the upgrades.  Integrated Waste  Requests a true financial analysis for the transition of leaving Amwaste.  Response:  The matter is still under review. A response will be provided soon.	Pam Hodge Angelica Alexander Drale Short
9	9/12/23	Glenn Davis	Integrated Waste  Would like to see a cost-benefit analysis on the integrated waste fees for automation.  Response:	Pam Hodge Angelica Alexander Lisa Goodwin Drale Short

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			The matter is still under review. A response will be provided soon.	
10	9/12/23	Bruce Huff	Community Meeting  Would like to have a follow-up community meeting with staff and the people in his district from the meeting that took place before COVID at M.L. Harris United Methodist Church	Lisa Goodwin
			Response:  I have spoken with Councilor Huff and waiting for him to provide a date for the meeting.	
11	9/26/2023	Toyia Tucker	Sidewalk in School Zones  Requests that we look into ensuring that proper sidewalk coverage is in all school zones to provide for a safe walkway for children coming and going to and from school.  Response:	Pam Hodge Donna Newman
			Working with the MCSD to determine which schools have walk zones in order to set priorities.	

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12	9/26/2023	Bruce Huff	Integrated Waste Community Meetings  Would like to have several community meetings to educate	Lisa Goodwin Drale Short
			Citizens on new Integrated Waste Protocols.  Response:  Public Works is working to get meetings scheduled with HOA's, Community Organizations, Churches and other groups to educate the public on the new initiatives with waste collection.	
13	9/26/2023	Walker Garrett	Integrated Waste  Requests that the Council receive a cost proposal for additional cans by the end of the year  Response:  The matter is still under review. A response is expected soon.	Lisa Goodwin Drale Short

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14	9/26/2023	Tyson Begly	Integrated Waste  Requests to see revenue by Customer type (apartment types, schools, etc.)  Response:  The matter is still under review. A response is expected soon.	Lisa Goodwin Drale Short
15	9/26/2023	Glenn Davis	Integrated Waste  Requests the following information:  1. What is the total operational cost of the recycling center?  2. The annual Cost of what we have to do on maintenance, excluding heavy equipment (EPD maintenance of landfill).  3. What is the total cost to mitigate the closure of portions of the landfill?	Lisa Goodwin Drale Short

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			Response: The matter is still under review. A response is expected soon.	
16	10/10/203	Joanne Cogle	Rigdon Park Requests that we purchase a gate at Rigdon Park similar to the gate that we installed at Carver Park.  Response: Staff have reached back out to Smith Metal Works to send us a current quote to do the same gate as Carver Park. We were told it would take a couple of days to get the pricing to be able to move forward.	Lisa Goodwin Holli Browder
17	10/10/2023	Glenn Davis	Judicial Building  Would like to set up time with staff to ask questions about the Judicial Center that he would like addressed.	Pam Hodge Ryan Pruett

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			Response:  The matter is still under review. A response is expected soon.	
18	10/10/2023	Glenn Davis	Judicial Building  Would like to look at expenditures currently and expenditures for expansions. He wants to look at the financial impact of the building and the financial impact of the construction.  Legion Please  Update provided at the 11/7/2023 Council meeting included information regarding current expenditures and expansion options.	Pam Hodge Ryan Pruett
19	10/24/2023	Toyia Tucker	Demolitions  Would like to request a list of dates for upcoming demolitions that have been approved. She is specifically inquiring about when 1209 Carmel Court 31907 will be demolished.  Response:  Update on 1209 Carmel Court 11/6/2023	Pam Hodge Ryan Pruett

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			The owner pulled a permit two years ago and completed some work on the home, which caused Code Enforcement to close the demolition case. We have since restarted the demolition process on the home in October 2023 due to no more progress being made in the repair process. This home will appear on the next demolition list that appears to Council.	
20	10/31/2023	Tyson Begly	Requests to see numbers of our average score for increasing mileage for our paving projects.  Provided presentation to Council at work session on 10/31. Handed Council District maps and current list of streets for paving as funding allows.	Pam Hodge Donna Newman
21	10/31/2023	Bruce Huff	Pools  Requests that we work with Girls Inc and the Boys and Girls Club for access to their pools since Frank D Chester doesn't have a pool for kids to use.  Response:	Lisa Goodwin Holli Browder

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			The matter is still under review. A response is expected soon.	
22	10/31/2023	Toyia Tucker	Trash Requests that we look into ways to reduce the amount of trash that the league leaves behind at Shirley B Winston  Response: The matter is still under review. A response is expected soon.	Lisa Goodwin Holli Browder
23	10/31/2023	Joanne Cogle	Animal Control Audit  Would like to request an update on how we have responded to the Animal Control Audit within the next few weeks. She would also like to discuss the euthanasia policy.  Response: The matter is still under review. A response is expected soon.	Lisa Goodwin Drale Short

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24	10/31/2023	Joanne Cogle	Animal Control Audit  Would like to request an update on how we have responded to the Animal Control Audit within the next few weeks. She would also like to discuss the euthanasia policy.	Lisa Goodwin Drale Short
			Response:	
			The matter is still under review. A response is expected soon.	
25	11/8/23	Charmaine Crabb	Would like to request a list of items that have been cut from the judicial building in order to accommodate the budget  Response ON PLETED  The budget presented at the 11/7/2023 Council meeting includes all necessary components identified by the User Groups and Design Team. This includes appropriate levels of finish materials, all requested Audio-Visual Systems, appropriate electrical, mechanical, and plumbing systems, and exterior skin as shown in the renderings.	Pam Hodge Ryan Pruett

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26	11/8/23	Charmaine Crabb	Requests speed detection devices on Windsor Drive and Canterbury Drive  Comparison of the Comparison of the Comparison of the Canterbury Drive  Ordering additional radar feedback signs. Will consider this area along with other request received for prioritization.	Pam Hodge Donna Newman
27	11/8/23	Toyia Tucker	Speed Detection Devices  Wants to report that he speed detection devices on North Star  Drive is no longer working  Response:  A bulb was replaced in the school flasher. It is now functional.	Pam Hodge Donna Newman
28	11/8/23	Toyia Tucker	18 Wheelers Complained about 18-wheelers parking at the corner of Woodruff Farm Rd and Forrest Rd. She requests that we contact the landowner and explain that we want the property cleaned out.	Pam Hodge Ryan Pruett

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			Response:  The owner of the property is a corporation based in Rhode Island. Code Enforcement has contacted the owner in regards to the solid waste on the property and will advise them that citizens do not like the property being used as a parking lot.	
29	11/8/23	Toyia Tucker	Requested that we contact the owner of the area at the corner of Farr Road to request that they help with our cleanup of 18-wheeler trucker PLETED  Response:	Pam Hodge Ryan Pruett
			Code Enforcement will contact the owner in regards to the solid waste on the property and will advise them that citizens do not like the property being used as a parking lot.	