



***Racine Fire Department***  
810 Eighth St, Racine WI 53403

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April 17, 2014

Honorable Mayor and  
Common Council

Dear Honorable Mayor and Common Council,

The Fire Chief is requesting that Section 38-22 of the City Ordinance be repealed and recreated as follows to update our ambulance billing structure.

“Sec. 38-22 - Ambulance Billings

1. The following rate structure will be utilized when billing for Emergency and Non-Emergency responses to medically related calls for assistance received through the 911 Joint Dispatch Center. **Changes are highlighted in bold.**

a. Basic Life Support On Scene Care or Invalid Assistance for non-emergency assistance where no transport or medical assistance is needed.

~~\$95.00~~ **\$200.00 for City of Racine or Contracted Area of Service Resident**

**\$225.00** for Non-resident living outside the City of Racine or Contracted Area of Service

b. Basic Life Support response and transport to a medical facility.

~~\$500.00~~ **\$550.00** for City of Racine or Contracted Area of Service Resident

~~\$625.00~~ **\$675.00** for Non-resident living outside the City of Racine or Contracted Area of Service

c. Advance Life Support response and transport to a medical facility.

~~\$650.00~~ **\$675.00** for City of Racine or Contracted Area of Service Resident

~~\$750.00~~ **\$800.00** for Non-Resident living outside the City of Racine or Contracted Area of Service

c1. Advance Life Support response and NO Transport – ON SCENE care only

~~\$400.00~~ **\$450.00** for City of Racine or Contracted Area of Service Resident

~~\$500.00~~ **\$600.00** for Non-Resident living outside the City of Racine or Contracted Area of Service.

d. Advance Life Support Tier 2 response and transport to a medical facility.

~~\$750.00~~ **\$775.00** for City of Racine or Contracted Area of Service

~~\$825.00~~ **\$900.00** for Non-Resident living outside the City of Racine or Contract Area of Service



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e. Loaded mileage rate from the emergency scene or incident to the hospital.

~~\$13.00~~ **\$13.75**/mile for City of Racine or Contracted Area of Service

~~\$13.50~~ **\$14.75**/mile for Non-Resident living outside the City of Racine or Contracted Area of Service.

f. Billable supplies including but not limited to the following:

~~\$60.00~~ **\$65.00** Oxygen

At the request of the Fire Chief the City's Emergency Medical Services billing agency, LifeQuest, undertook a rate comparison study of the City's charges for Emergency Medical Services and compared those charges against similar communities in Wisconsin. Communities included in the survey are Watertown Fire Department, West Allis Fire Department, Beaver Dam Fire Department, Dells-Delton EMS, and the Wausau Fire Department. All mentioned agencies provide Emergency Medical Technician Basic and Paramedic services.

The result of the survey provided an overall average of charges for the different categories of response, and also included a recommendation from LifeQuest to the City of Racine for rate adjustment. Copies of the survey are available for review.

The results of that survey reflected the City of Racine charges for Emergency Medical Services were less than surrounding communities. In an effort to make sure our rates are comparable with other Fire and EMS agencies in Wisconsin we recommend making the above noted changes to ordinance 38-22. The last update of this ordinance was in January of 2013.

**Fiscal Note:** There will be an increase in 2015 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) revenues for account 101.300.7280 where the revenue is accounted for within the fire department budget. We anticipate an increase of \$31,486 annually.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Hansen, Fire Chief