

Town of Sabattus
Cost Recovery Policy

Subject Cost recovery for services provided by Sabattus Fire.

Purpose: The Town of Sabattus is engaged in providing fire suppression, fire rescue and fire safety services, and in consideration of services rendered hereby desires to set the following restitution policy for Sabattus Fire services. This Policy is adopted pursuant to municipal home rule Policy authority and Title 30-A MR.SA, Section 3001.

Scope: The Town of Sabattus will seek payment for the cost of services provided by the Town of Sabattus Fire Department when responding to incidents in the Town of Sabattus.

Definition: Services the Town of Sabattus shall seek payment for include, but are not limited to:

A - Scene and safety control at traffic accidents: The positioning of fire apparatus and personnel to protect the scene from other traffic and deny entry into the scene of unauthorized personnel. Police will move traffic around the area the Fire Rescue Department has deemed as the safe zone for the occupants of the vehicles and the rescuers on the scene. Safely staging other incoming agencies responding to this incident may also include a pulled hose line for the protection of people on scene from possible fires and fumes or residue from such things as gasoline and airbag propellants. The most important function is establishing incident command of the scene, which is the Fire Rescue Department's responsibility at emergency incidents and to coordinate with other responding agencies for their needs at the scene. Patient care is the responsibility of Emergency Medical Service (EMS) personnel, but assistance may be requested.

B -Disentanglement operations and assist rescue with extrication from vehicles: Anytime a person has to be lifted or taken out of an emergency situation or forcible entry is necessary to gain proper access to victims, the Fire Rescue Department will assist ambulance or EMS personnel in a coordinated effort. Ropes, ladder devices, air monitoring equipment, self-contained breathing apparatus, hydraulic equipment, shoring, saws, cribbing, and airbags are just a few of the types of equipment used in extrication incidents.

C - Fluid and hazardous substance mitigation at traffic accidents: Anytime the Fire Rescue Department has to manage any fluids or hazardous substances through containment or absorption with pads, sand or other means permitted by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Mitigation of all hazardous substances is performed in accordance with DEP regulations.

D - Vehicle fires: Anytime the Fire Rescue Department personnel have to contain or extinguish a fire. It also includes the laying of hose lines and positioning a hand line for the protection of individuals at the scene because of fire, smoke, or leaking fluids, such as gasoline.

Policy: Fees for Services: Upon adoption of this policy, the Board of Selectmen in their expressed authority shall be authorized to review and set the fees for Fire Rescue Department services as they deem in the best interest of the Town of Sabattus. Fees for services shall be limited to cost recovery. Methods of calculating the cost of services shall be identified and generally based upon the average cost or specific cost of providing the service. Cost calculations will include direct costs (apparatus, personnel, and any miscellaneous supplies and services).

Restitution and Billing Procedure: The Town may seek restitution for costs of Fire Rescue Department services by filing claims with the insurance companies that insure the individuals or companies involved in an incident where Fire Rescue Department Services are provided. The Board of Selectmen is authorized to enter into a Cost Recovery Agreement with a third-party billing company for the billing and collection of fees for Fire Department services through the filing of insurance claims. All such claims shall be submitted in the name of the Town of Sabattus. The Town shall only seek restitution for Fire Rescue Department Services from insured driver's at-fault. Restitution will only be billed to the insurance company and never the individual.

Compensation: Terms of compensation to the third-party billing company shall be agreed upon and approved by the Board of Selectmen and set forth in the terms of the Cost Recovery Agreement.

Reserve Account: All monies collected from above billing, less costs of collection, shall be deposited to the "Fire/Rescue Department Capital Reserve" (G3-700-01) account and used consistent with the terms of said reserve account.

Administration and Enforcement: It shall be the duty of the third-party billing company to effectively pursue the requirements of this Ordinance for payment of services rendered by the Fire Rescue Department as specifically outlined above.

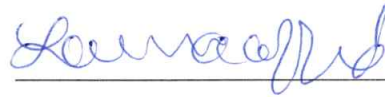
Insurance requirements: The third-party billing company shall at all times during the term of the agreement, have valid General Liability insurance policy, a Cyber Liability policy, an Error and Omissions Policy and the Town of Sabattus shall be named as additionally insured.

Validity and Severability: If any section or provision of this policy is declared by the courts to be invalid, such decision shall not invalidate any other section of this policy.

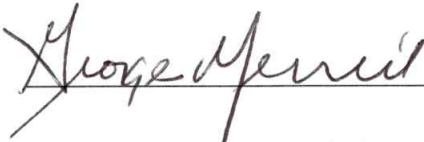
Effective Date: This Policy shall take effect upon approval of the Town of Sabattus Selectboard for a contract with a third party billing company

8/4/2024

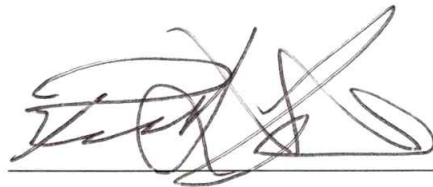
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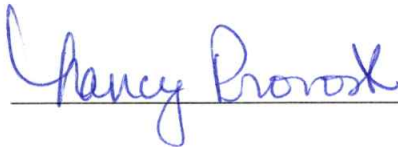
Laura Clifford- Chair



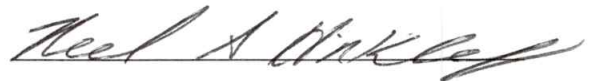
George Merrill- Vice Chair



Rick Lacombe



Nancy Provost



Noel Hinkley

Appendix A

RECOVERY RATES BASED ON PER HOUR

MOTOR VEHICLE INCIDENTS

Level 1- \$450.00 Provide hazardous materials assessment and scene stabilization. This will be the most common "billing level". This occurs almost every time the Fire Rescue Department responds to an accident/incident.

Level 2 - \$550.00 Includes Level 1 services as well as clean up and material used (sorbents) for hazardous fluid clean up and disposal. We will bill at this level if the Fire Rescue Department has to clean up any gasoline or other automotive fluids that are spilled as a result of the accident/incident.

Level 3- CAR FIRE - \$675.00 Provide scene safety, fire suppression, breathing air, rescue tools, hand tools, hose, tip use, foam, structure protection, and clean up gasoline or other automotive fluids that are spilled as a result of the accident/incident.

ADD-ON SERVICES:

Extrication - \$1,450.00 includes heavy rescue tools, ropes, airbags, cribbing etc. This charge will be added if the Fire Rescue Department has to free/remove anyone from the vehicle(s) using any equipment. We will not bill at this level if the patient is simply unconscious and Fire Rescue Department is able to open the door to access the patient. This level is to be billed only if equipment is deployed.

Creating a Landing Zone - \$450.00 Includes Air Care (multi-engine company response, mutual aid, helicopter). We will bill at this level any time a helicopter landing zone is created and/or is utilized to transport the patient(s).

Itemized Response: The Town Of Sabattus has the option to bill each incident as an

independent event with custom recovery rates, for each incident using, itemized rates deemed usual, customary, and reasonable (UCR). These incidents will be billed, itemized per apparatus, per personnel, plus products and equipment used.

ADDITIONAL APPARATUS TIME ON-SCENE

Engine billed at \$455 per hour.

Truck billed at \$568 per hour.

Heavy Rescue billed at \$400 per hour.

Miscellaneous equipment billed at \$341.