

CITY OF HIGHLAND VILLAGE, TEXAS

ORDINANCE NO. 2018-1256

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND VILLAGE, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 10 "HEALTH AND SANITATION," ARTICLE 10.02 "AMBULANCE SERVICE" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF HIGHLAND VILLAGE, TEXAS, BY AMENDING SUBSECTION (b) OF SECTION 10.02.004 "SERVICE PROVIDED, FEE SCHEDULE" RELATING TO THE FEES TO BE CHARGED FOR PROVIDING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES; ADDING SECTION 10.02.006 "NO BALANCE BILLING FOR CITY RESIDENTS" REGARDING BILLING OF CITY RESIDENTS FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES; ADDING SECTION 10.02.007 "CHARGES FOR MUTUAL AID RECIPIENTS OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES" RELATING TO CHARGES FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDED NON-RESIDENTS PURSUANT TO A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it is necessary to adjust the fees and charges to be assessed for the provision of emergency medical services to reflect the current costs for providing emergency medical services and associated supplies including, but not limited to, transportation, intravenous fluids, medications, bandages, and oxygen masks due to continuing increases in the cost of such services and items; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to only bill a city resident's health insurance company or other applicable health care benefits plan for the cost of providing emergency medical service to such resident, with any remaining balance to be written off; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further desires and finds it to be in the public interest to charge a resident of another city who receives emergency medical services provided by the City of Highland Village pursuant to a mutual aid agreement with said other city to be billed in the same manner as City residents as long as such other city will similarly charge the City's resident no more than what the City would charge if such other city provides emergency medical service to a City resident pursuant to said mutual aid agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND VILLAGE, TEXAS, THAT:

Section 1. Chapter 10 "Health and Sanitation," Article 10.02 "Ambulance Service" of the Highland Code of Ordinances of the City of Highland Village is amended as follows:

- A. Section 10.02.004 "Service Provided; Fee Schedule", is hereby amended by amending Subsection (b) "Fee Schedule" to read in its entirety as follows:

Sec. 10.02.004 Service Provided; Fee Schedule

* * *

(b) Fee Schedule. Fees shall be assessed to residents and non-residents of the City for the provision of the following emergency medical services furnished by the City's fire department to residents and non-residents in amounts adopted by resolution of the City Council and published in the City's Master Fee Schedule maintained in the Office of the City Secretary:

- (1) Provision of Basic Life Support (BLS) treatment and transportation by emergency ambulance to a full-service hospital facility to be charged on a per trip, per person basis;
- (2) Provision of Advanced Life Support I (ALS-I) treatment and transportation by emergency ambulance to a full-service hospital facility charged on a per trip, per person basis
- (3) Provision of Advanced Life Support II (ALS-II) treatment and transportation by emergency ambulance to a full-service hospital facility to be charged on a per trip, per person basis;
- (4) In addition to the other fees charged in this subsection (b), a fee shall be charged per loaded mile travelled by ambulance from the location where the person is loaded to the hospital facility where the person is unloaded;
- (5) In addition to the other fees charged in this subsection (b), a fee shall be charged on a per trip, per person basis for single-usage disposable items used during the provision of Basic Life Support (BLS) treatment;
- (6) In addition to the other fees charged in this subsection (b), a fee of shall be charged on a per trip, per person basis for single-usage disposable items used in the provision of ALS-I or ALS-II treatment; and
- (7) In addition to the other fees charged in this subsection (b), a fee shall be charged on a per trip, per person basis for single-usage disposable items utilized in conjunction with the provision and use of oxygen.

* * *

B. Section 10.02.006 titled "No Balance Billing for City Residents" is added to read as follows:

Sec. 10.02.006 No Balance Billing for City Residents

A City resident shall not be billed by the City for the remaining unpaid balance of fees charged pursuant to Section 10.02.004 for the provision of emergency medical services provided to said City resident after receipt by the City of final

payment from the provider of said City resident's medical insurance benefits, with such remaining unpaid balance to be written off. The foregoing shall also apply to a non-resident of the City where the City resident is a beneficiary under such non-resident's medical insurance or other medical benefits plan and the City resident was the recipient of the emergency medical services. This section shall not apply to the billing of non-residents at the City resident rates for the provision of emergency medical services under a mutual aid agreement pursuant to Section 10.02.007.

C. Section 10.02.007 title "Billing of Mutual Aid Recipients" is added to read as follows:

Sec. 10.02.007 Billing of Mutual Aid Recipients

A non-resident of the City who receives emergency medical services from the City's fire department during an emergency run made to such person's city of residence in accordance with a mutual aid or similar agreement between the City and such person's city of residence shall be charged the fees charged to the City's residents pursuant to Section 10.02.004 for the provision of emergency medical services if such person's city of residence has adopted an ordinance or resolution, or has entered into an interlocal agreement with the City, providing that such other city will charge City's residents the rate such other city charges its own residents for emergency medical services if such other city provides emergency medical services to a City resident pursuant to the mutual aid or similar agreement with the City.

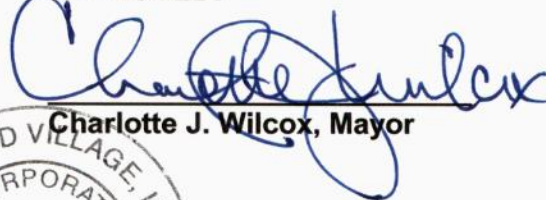
Section 4. If any section, article, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase or word in this ordinance, or application thereto any person or circumstance is held invalid or unconstitutional by a Court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance; and the City Council hereby declares it would have passed such remaining portions of the ordinance despite such invalidity, which remaining portion shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage on Second Reading and publication of the caption in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Highland Village, and it is accordingly so ordained.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND VILLAGE, TEXAS, ON FIRST READING ON THIS THE 23RD DAY OF OCTOBER 2018.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HIGHLAND VILLAGE, TEXAS, ON SECOND READING ON THIS THE 13TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2018.

APPROVED:



Charlotte J. Wilcox, Mayor

ATTEST:



Angela Miller, City Secretary



APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K. Laughlin', written over a horizontal line.

Kevin B. Laughlin, City Attorney
(kbl:10/17/18:103513)