

RESOLUTION NO: 600

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING AND IMPLEMENTING A PROGRAM TO CHARGE MITIGATION RATES FOR THE DEPLOYMENT OF EMERGENCY AND NON-EMERGENCY SERVICES BY THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR SERVICES PROVIDED/RENDERED FOR THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, KANSAS.

WHEREAS, the cost of emergency and non-emergency services response activity to incidents continues to increase each year. Additional Environmental Protection requirements involving equipment and training, and Homeland Security regulations involving equipment and training create additional demands on all operational aspects of the fire department services; and

WHEREAS, the fire department has investigated different methods to maintain a high level of quality of emergency and non-emergency service capability throughout times of constantly increasing service demands, where maintaining an effective response by the fire department decreases the costs of incidents to insurance carriers, businesses, and individuals through timely and effective management of emergency situations, saving lives and reducing property and environmental damage; and

WHEREAS, the City Council and the Columbus Fire Department desire to implement a fair and equitable procedure by which to collect said mitigation rates and shall establish a billing system in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and guidelines;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, KANSAS:

SECTION 1. Resolution No. 285 shall be repealed.

SECTION 2: The Columbus Fire Department shall initiate mitigation rates for the delivery of emergency and non-emergency services by the fire department for personnel, supplies and equipment to the scene of emergency and non-emergency incidents as listed in "EXHIBIT A". The mitigation rates shall be based on actual costs of the services and that which is usual, customary and reasonable (UCR) as shown in "EXHIBIT A", which may include any services, personnel, supplies, and equipment and with baselines established by addendum to this document.

SECTION 3: A claim shall be filed to the responsible party(s) through their insurance carrier. In some circumstances, the responsible party(s) will be billed directly. This resolution excludes insurance recovery claims that are handled by the City of Columbus directly, per ordinance (Ordinance 1395) which reflects K.S.A. 40-3901.

SECTION 4: The Governing Body may make rules or regulations and from time to time may amend, revoke, or add rules and regulations, not consistent with this Section, as they may deem necessary or expedient in respect to billing for these mitigation rates or the collection thereof.

SECTION 5: It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Governing Body concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in open meetings of the Governing Body, and that all deliberations of the Governing Body and any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in accordance with all legal requirements, and the Codified Ordinances of the City of Columbus, Kansas.

SECTION 6: The Mitigation Rates lists in Exhibit A will increase by 1.5% annually or based on the annual percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), as developed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor, whichever is more. Rate adjustments will occur on the anniversary date of this ordinance/resolution to keep the fire department's cost recovery program in conformity with increasing operating expenses.

SECTION 7. The City shall pursue a private contract for recovery services seeking reimbursement that serves to mitigate expenses of emergency response services.

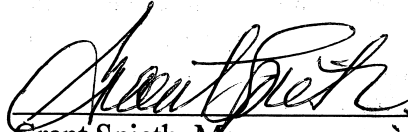
SECTION 8: This Resolution shall take effect thirty days (30) from the date of adoption as permitted by law.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the City of Columbus, Kansas, adopts the attached, incorporated Mitigation Rates, Exhibit A.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Columbus shall pursue a private contract for recovery services.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Governing Body of the City of Columbus, Kansas, this 8th day of September , 2020.

CITY OF COLUMBUS, KANSAS


Grant Spieth, Mayor

ATTEST:


Cherri Chancellor, City Clerk

