

Ambulance Committee Meeting

Monday, March 10, 2003

The Ambulance Committee met in council chambers at 6:30 P.M. to review the current ordinance. The following members were present: Finance Chair Sandy Cox, Safety Health & Service chair Sam Hitchcock, Safety Director Greg Popham, Fire Chief Jamie Snyder, Law Director Mike Johnson, and Mayor Ron Brodzinski. Guests present were Councilmen Art Cicconetti and Joel Day, Ella Slough and the media.

Chief Snyder was given the floor and began by mentioning that, by ordinance, the Ambulance Committee was required to meet at least once annually, in open session, to review fees charged for ambulance service. Chief Snyder then began the discussion by comparing the current fee schedule with the most recent ordinance for the Dover Fire Department. Chief Snyder pointed out New Phila's resident fee of \$120.00 for basic life support and \$170.00 for advanced life support in comparison of Dover's fee of \$170.00 for basic life support and \$300.00 for advanced life support. Snyder also pointed out a mileage charge difference of \$3.00 (per loaded mile) in New Phila compared to \$8.41 in Dover.

Comparison of non-resident fees were noted as follows: \$240.00 for basic life support and \$340.00 for advanced life support in New Phila and \$220.00 for basic life support and \$350.00 for advanced life support in Dover.

Comparing the New Phila ordinance with Dover, it was also noted that New Phila charges a \$65.00 fee for medical assist. This type of charge was not listed in the Dover ordinance.

Discussing the mileage charge, Chief Snyder told the committee that he believed that Medicare would pick up some or possibly all of the mileage charges. He explained to the committee what the medic assist involved and thought that Medicare might also cover some or all of this fee.

Safety Director Popham asked the Law Director Mike Johnson if the ordinance could be worded to reflect whatever Medicare would reimburse at a given time or situation. Other committee members did not seem to favor this in light of the fact that the committee was required to meet at least annually and could recommend any needed adjustments to full council at that time.

Mayor Brodzinski and Councilwoman Sandy Cox both said they would like to see further comparisons with other services including Smith Ambulance before making any recommendations. Chief Snyder said he would gather the requested information and have it ready for the next meeting which was scheduled for Monday, March 24th at 6:30 P.M., before the regularly scheduled council meeting.

At 6:51 P.M., with no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sam R. Hitchcock, Chairman
AMBULANCE COMMITTEE
CITY OF NEW PHILADELPHIA