



MASON J. POOLER
FIRE CHIEF



CITY of WEST ALLIS
FIRE DEPARTMENT

September 21, 2017

Request for Approval

Honorable members of the Police & Fire Commission, the purpose of this communication is to explain the motion before you to increase our current crash billing rate from \$250.00 to \$500.00.

Crash billing is a charge assessed to non-residents who are involved in a motor vehicle accident that requires the response of a fire truck. The fee is used to offset costs such as personnel, fuel, apparatus wear and tear, and supplies used on scene. The following conditions must be met in order to generate a crash bill:

- 1) The Fire Department responds with a fire engine or ladder truck
- 2) The accident takes place within City limits
- 3) The responding company takes one or more action(s) to mitigate the results of the accident.
 - a. Clean up fluids/deploy absorbent material
 - b. Fuel flush / deploy Hose line for safety
 - c. Return roadway/ scene to navigable and or safe condition

AND

- 4) One or more vehicle is NOT registered within City limits
 - a. If both or all vehicles are registered within the City no fee is issued to any party
 - b. Any and all vehicles not registered within the City receive a bill

No Bill is issued if a "fire engine or ladder truck responds and provides only traffic control, scene safety or assistance with medical care.

The current crash billing rate of \$250.00 was set in 2012 and enacted on January 1, 2013. Since that time, the associated costs of these responses have increased. Personnel costs have increased over 10%. The fire department is under direction from the City's Finance Department to budget for an increase of over 30% for diesel fuel in 2018. Additionally, due to EPA requirements on new diesel engines, the fuel economy of fire apparatus has decreased by approximately 25%.

Increasing our crash billing fee will help the city offset the costs associated with these responses. It will also bring our charges in line with our neighboring communities. Currently, the North Shore Fire Department (Bayside, Glendale, River Hills, Shorewood, Fox Point, Whitefish Bay, and Brown Deer), St. Francis, Cudahy, and Greenfield all charge \$500.00 for similar responses.

Respectfully,

Mason Pooler
Fire Chief

Formal Approval	!	Date
President, Police and Fire Commission		