

ORDINANCE NO. 2011-07

INTRODUCED BY: Mayor Rinker and Council as a Whole

**AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE  
AMENDING CODIFIED ORDINANCE CHAPTER 1523  
RELATING TO THE RECOVERY OF  
COSTS FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES  
PROVIDED TO NON-RESIDENTS**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance No. 2009-54, the Village authorized amendments to Chapter 1523 relating to the recovery of costs for emergency services provided to non-residents; and

WHEREAS, at this time, it has become necessary to further amend the Chapter to update credit and collection policy provisions that are stated therein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF MAYFIELD VILLAGE, OHIO, THAT:

SECTION 1. Chapter 1523, Recovery of Costs for Emergency Medical Services Provided to Non-Residents, shall be amended to read as set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference and shall be effective upon passage.

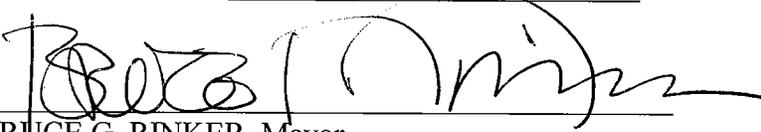
SECTION 2. The Council finds and determines that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Ordinance have been taken at open meetings of this Council; and that deliberations of this Council and of its committees, resulting in such formal action, took place in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all statutory requirements including the requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

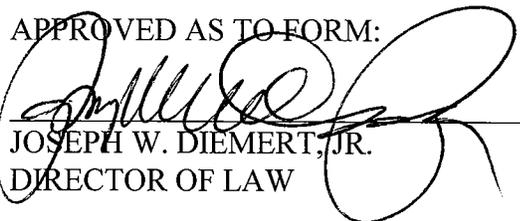
SECTION 3. This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure immediately necessary for the health, safety and welfare of the residents of Mayfield Village, Ohio. It shall, therefore, take effect immediately upon the passage by the affirmative vote of

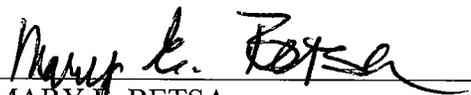
not less than five (5) members elected to Council and approval by the Mayor or otherwise at the earliest time allowed by law.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
WILLIAM BUCKHOLTZ  
Council President

First Reading:     March 21,                     2011  
Second Reading:   April 25,                     2011  
Third Reading:     May 16,                     2011  
                              May 16,                     2011  
PASSED:             \_\_\_\_\_ 2011

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
BRUCE G. RINKER, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JOSEPH W. DIEMERT, JR.  
DIRECTOR OF LAW

ATTEST:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
MARY E. BETSA,  
Clerk of Council

**EXHIBIT A**

**1523.01 CHARGES.**

(a) Emergency medical service and ambulance transport shall be provided by the Mayfield Village Fire Department in response to a call for such services within the Village, and outside the Village under provisions of a mutual aid agreement, applicable law governing mutual aid, by agreement with neighboring municipalities.

(b) Each non-resident transported by ambulance to a medical facility by the emergency medical services of the Mayfield Village Fire Department shall be charged a user fee\* as follows:

(1)	Basic Life Support Transport (BLS)	A flat rate per transport as determined by the Village plus related administrative costs for collection
(2)	Advanced Life Support Transport (ALS)	A flat rate per transport as determined by the Village on an annual basis plus related administrative costs for collection
(3)	ALS/BLS per loaded transport mile	\$.10.00 per mile

- (i) A non-resident shall mean an individual that resides outside of the Village and excludes residents of Mayfield Village, employees of Mayfield Village and their dependents.
- (ii) Residents of Mayfield Village, employees of Mayfield Village and their dependents shall not be charged a user fee corresponding to the services provided. For all services provided to residents, employees of Mayfield Village and their dependents the taxes paid to the Village in the form of real estate taxes and/or Village income tax will be considered full payment for the services provided.

(c) Usual and customary rate (UCR) shall be accepted by the Village for every person transported even if a provider contract does not exist with the insurance provider. Notwithstanding the acceptance of UCR, co-payments due under individual contracts remain the responsibility of the patient unless otherwise waived under this chapter or by the Fire Chief.

\* or such other user fee as determined to be the authorized Medicare reimbursement rate established for the Village under Title 18 of the Social Security Act 49 stat 620 (1935), 42 U.S.C. 301, as amended from time to time.

1523.02 CREDIT AND COLLECTION POLICY

- a. Billing Procedures
- b. Billing Company
- c. Payment for Services
- d. Commercial Insurance
- e. Motor Vehicle Accidents
- f. Medicare and Medicaid
- g. Claim Follow-Up Procedures
- h. Delinquent Accounts
- i. Collection Agency
- j. Write-Off Accounts
- k. EMS Services Rendered to Prisoners
- l. Mutual Aid Transports
- m. Credit to General Fund

(a) Billing Procedures.

The Fire Chief (or his designee) shall be responsible for the development of billing procedures and collection of user fees as set forth herein.

(b) Billing Company.

Mayfield Village shall enter into an agreement with an established health care billing company (the "Billing Company") to coordinate with the Fire Chief in implementing proper procedures for the collection of the user fees.

(c) Payment for Services.

Self-Pay patients are expected to pay their account in full after the first 30 days following the EMS run. The responsibility for the payment of charges rests with the patient or responsible party. Payment arrangements can be made. All decisions relative to credit and collections must always be tempered by good judgment and reason as the situation may require.

Payment arrangements are to be made as agreed upon by the Billing Company. An attempt to receive the highest monthly payment will be made. A minimal payment of \$20.00 will be accepted.

In case of death of client, the Billing Company will contact the Legal Representative of the Estate and pursue filing a claim for payment.

(d) Commercial Insurance.

Mayfield Village will rely on the Billing Company to obtain insurance information for all transfers through electronic interface with the hospital.

As a service to our patients, we will bill commercial companies directly. If the information is not received, the Billing Company will complete the process by contacting the necessary responsible parties. Once the information is obtained, the claim will be filed either electronically or United States Parcel Mail.

(e) Motor Vehicle Accidents.

If an Ambulance Claim is caused by a motor vehicle accident and the auto insurance is disputing the claim/and or the claim is in legal dispute, the Billing Company will obtain a letter of protection from the attorney. This will ensure that monies will be sent to Mayfield Village directly once the case is settled. If there is no attorney involved, the responsible party is required to make monthly payments on the account.

(f) Medicare and Medicaid.

The Billing Company shall waive all co-payments, deductibles, or balance remaining following payment received from Medicare or Medicaid, otherwise owed to Mayfield Village for persons with Medicare, Medicaid, or Medicare HMO coverage as a source of health insurance.

The Billing Company will bill Medicare and/or Medicaid directly for the ambulance services incurred. Medicare and Medicaid recipients will not receive a bill and payment will be obtained directly from Medicare/Medicaid. Mayfield Village will accept assignment deemed by this payer.

(g) Claim Follow Up Procedures.

30 days	Initial submission of claims
45-60 days	1 <sup>st</sup> contact to insurance regarding status of claim
90 days	2 <sup>nd</sup> contact to insurance regarding status of claim
	<del>Patient becomes responsible for claim</del>

After 90 days regular contact to resolve problem will be made and/or patient will become responsible.

(h) Delinquent Accounts.

An account will be considered delinquent if there is an outstanding charge after 120 days if insurance was involved, or 60 days for self-pay patients if payment arrangements have not been made. ~~A series of two collection letters will be sent. The first will be a payment plan letter and the last will be a Final Notice.~~ The Billing Company will attempt to make final phone contact with the responsible party 10 days before turning it over to Mayfield Village for an individualized review and determination of write off as non-collectible or referral to a collection agency ~~the Collection Agency.~~

When payment cannot be made in full, responsible party will be encouraged to pay under arrangement.

(i) The Use of Collection Agency.

When an account cannot be collected, the Billing Company will forward an itemized statement and Account Authorization to Mayfield Village. Mayfield Village will review the accounts recommended to collection to assure compliance with policy as established by Mayfield Village Council prior to forwarding the account to a Collection Agency.

The Following circumstances determine whether an account should or should not be sent to a collection Agency.

1. Cases that meet the criteria for financial hardship, or as determined forgivable by the Mayfield Village Director of Finance.
2. Return mail, disconnected phone, skipped town
3. Payment Agreement repeatedly not kept after 120 days

(j) Account Adjustments.

Accounts will not need to be authorized by Mayfield Village under the following circumstances.

- i. Small balance adjustments less than \$4.00
- ii. Bankruptcy
- iii. Contract Service Adjustments. Amounts considered above the allowed amounts for that contractual insurance. (UCR's) The Billing Company will bill patient for balances due after payment received by an insurance company.

A listing of all written off accounts will be maintained by the Billing Company and will be sent monthly to the Mayfield Village Finance Department.

If a payment is received for a written off account, the monies received will be recharged to the accounts and balanced.

1. Cases that meet the criteria for financial hardship. Individual must submit proof that income levels fall below current HUD requirements for low income.

(k) Services Rendered to Prisoners.

All persons receiving Mayfield Village Fire Department EMS services while confined as a prisoner in the Village of Gates Mills Jail shall be responsible for payment of appropriate charges, as referenced in section 1523.01, in accordance with policy guidelines 1 through 9 hereinabove. Unpaid charges will be billed to the arresting Municipality. All persons receiving Mayfield Village Fire Department EMS services while in physical custody of the Mayfield Village Police Department shall be responsible for payment of appropriate charges, as referenced in section 1523.01, in accordance with policy guidelines 1 through 9 hereinabove.

(l) Mutual Aid Transports.

When emergency medical services are provided by Mayfield Village personnel to persons outside Mayfield Village limits pursuant to a mutual aid agreement or understanding with another municipality, Mayfield Village shall bill such person in accordance with the practices of Mayfield Village ~~the requesting municipality~~. When emergency medical services are provided within Mayfield Village limits by personnel of another municipality pursuant to a mutual aid agreement of understanding, such person shall be billed in accordance with the billing practices of the other municipality ~~Mayfield Village~~.

(m) Credit to General Fund.

Upon collection of the user fees established herein, the funds shall be credited to the General Fund as an offset to the cost of providing emergency services and transport.

The Village has determined that the actual cost per run to be charged pursuant to Codified Ordinance Chapter 1523 shall be \$1200.00. ~~for the year 2009.~~