

CHAPTER 456

CHARGES FOR FIRE PROTECTION AND FIRE DEPARTMENT EMERGENCY SERVICES

[History: Ord 2012-16]

456.01 AUTHORITY. Pursuant to the authority set forth in Section. 66.0627 Wisconsin Statutes, the City of Richland Center hereby establishes the following policy and procedure for the payment of fire protection and fire department emergency service costs billed to the City of Richland Center by the Richland Fire District.

456.02: LIABILITY FOR SERVICE COSTS. The owners of real estate, the owners of personal property located permanently or temporarily within the City of Richland Center and individuals within the City for which or to whom fire protection services and/or other fire department emergency services are provided by the Richland Fire District shall be liable to the City for the costs of the fire protection service and other fire department emergency services as billed to the City by the Richland Fire District. The current schedule for such costs is as hereinafter set forth. Any changes in the costs hereafter imposed by the Richland Fire District shall be deemed incorporated herein by reference as of the effective date of such changes.

456.03 CURRENT COST SCHEDULE.

- (1) The current schedule for such costs is as follows:
 - (a) Basic fire protection service call: \$600.00 per hour up to one (1) hour
 - (b) Fire call time in excess of 1 hour: \$400.00 per hour or part of an hour
 - (c) False alarms for which the City is billed by the Fire District : \$300.00 per call
 - (d) Fire Department duty crew/spill crew: \$400.00 per hour or part thereof
 - (e) Assistance to Richland County Ambulance pursuant to call for assistance by the ambulance: \$125.00
 - (f) Assistance from Richland County Ambulance pursuant to call for assistance by the fire department: \$125.00
 - (g) Rental of special equipment: Actual cost incurred by the fire department and billed to the City
 - (f) Foam: Actual cost incurred by the fire department and billed to the City
 - (g) Oil dry or other special or consumable supplies: Actual cost incurred by the fire department and billed to the City

(2) Charges begin when the call is received by the fire department, and continue until the equipment dispatched is back in service at the fire station.

(3) In the event that the Richland Fire District changes its schedule of the amounts billed to the City, the foregoing schedule of charges may be amended by ordinance or by resolution to incorporate such changes.

456.04 BILLING AND PAYMENT PROCEDURE.

The costs of fire protection services and other fire department emergency services as set forth above shall be billed by the City Clerk's office as follows:

(1) Services furnished to real properties.

a. The costs of fire department services furnished to real estate or improvements to real estate shall be billed to the owner of the property to which the services were provided at the address shown for such owner in the records of the Richland County Treasurer. Such bills shall be due and payable to the City Treasurer within 60 days after mailing of the bill. No interest will be charged on past due bills, except that interest as provided by law shall apply to unpaid special charges which have been imposed as a special charge on a tax bill.

b. The costs of fire department services rendered to real property remaining unpaid as of November 1 of any year shall be imposed as a special charge against the real estate to which the fire protection service was provided and shall be placed on the tax roll as a delinquent special charge pursuant to Section 66.0627 of the Wisconsin Statutes. The mailing of the bill by the City Clerk's office shall constitute notice of the special charge.

(2) Services furnished to other than real properties.

a. If services were furnished to a motor vehicle, such as a vehicle fire or ambulance backup at a vehicle accident, or to other movable property, to the owner(s) of the vehicle or property involved in the incident.

b. If services were furnished in any other situation, to the person to whom or for whose benefit the services were rendered.

c. If for a false alarm, to the person who made the call initiating the false alarm.

d. Such bills shall be due and payable to the City Clerk/Treasurer within 60 days after mailing of the bill.

(3) Collection of Unpaid bills.

a. Any charges billed to the City by the Richland Fire District for fire protection service or other fire department emergency services provided to property other than real property may be recovered by court action against the owner of such property.

b. Any charges billed to the City by the Richland Fire District for a false fire alarms may be recovered by court action against the person who made the call initiating the false alarm.

c. Any charges billed to the City by the Richland Fire District for fire protection service or other fire department emergency services rendered to real property for which a lien is not imposed or, if imposed, is adjudged invalid, may be recovered by court action against the owner of such real property

456.05 SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS. The provisions of this Chapter are hereby declared to be severable. Should any section or provision of this chapter or any application thereof be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Chapter.