

## CHAPTER 31: EMERGENCY SERVICES

Section

### *Emergency Protection Services*

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### ***EMERGENCY PROTECTION SERVICES***

#### **' 31.01 PURPOSE AND INTENT.**

This subchapter is adopted for the purpose of authorizing the City of Blooming Prairie to charge for emergency service, as authorized by M.S. " 366.011, 366.012 and 415.01, as they may be amended from time to time.

(Ord. 2011-02, passed 4-11-2011, amended 4-12-2021)

#### **' 31.02 DEFINITIONS.**

For the purpose of this subchapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

***EMERGENCY PROTECTION CONTRACT.*** A contract between the city and a town or other city for the city to provide emergency services, including fire, rescue, medical, and related services.

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***EMERGENCY SERVICE.*** Any deployment of firefighting, medical, rescue, or related personnel and/or equipment to extinguish a fire or perform any preventative measure in an effort to protect equipment, life or property in an area threatened by fire, or perform emergency rescue, medical, or related services. It also includes the deployment of firefighting personnel and/or equipment to provide fire suppression, rescue, extrication and any other services related to fire and rescue as may occasionally occur.

***EMERGENCY SERVICE CHARGE.*** The charge imposed by the city for receiving fire, medical, rescue, or related services.

***MOTOR VEHICLE.*** Any self-propelled vehicle designed and originally manufactured to operate primarily upon public roads and highways, and not operated exclusively upon railroad tracks. It includes semi-trailers. It does not include snowmobiles, manufactured homes, all-terrain vehicles or park trailers.

***MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT.*** An agreement between the city and a town or other city for the city's Fire Department or Ambulance Service to provide assistance to another town or other city.

(Ord. 2011-02, passed 4-11-2011, amended 4-12-2021)

**' 31.03 PARTIES AFFECTED.**

The following parties are affected:

(A) Owners of property within the city who receive emergency service; and

(B) Anyone who receives emergency service as a result of a motor vehicle accident or fire, or medical or related emergency within the city. Owners of property in towns, townships or cities to which the city provides emergency service pursuant to an emergency protection contract.

(Ord. 2011-02, passed 4-11-2011, amended 4-12-2021)

**' 31.04 RATES.**

Rates, charges, and fees are approved annually by the Blooming Prairie City Council. All materials used at the scene will be included for reimbursement.

(Ord. 2011-02, passed 4-11-2011, amended 4-12-2021)

## Emergency Services

### ' 31.05 BILLING AND COLLECTION.

(A) Parties requesting and receiving emergency services may be billed directly by the city. Additionally, if the party receiving emergency services did not request services, but a fire or other emergency situation exists which, at the discretion of the emergency personnel in charge, requires emergency service, the party will be charged and billed. All parties will be billed whether or not the emergency service is covered by insurance. Any billable amount of the emergency service not covered by a party's insurance remains a debt of the party receiving the emergency service.

(B) Parties billed for emergency service will have 30 days to pay. If the emergency service charge is not paid by that time, it will be considered delinquent and the city will send a notice of delinquency; if the emergency service charge remains unpaid for 30 days after the notice of delinquency is sent, the city will use all practical and reasonable legal means to collect the emergency service charge. The party receiving emergency services shall be liable for all collection costs incurred by the city including, but not limited to, reasonable attorney fees and court costs.

(C) If the emergency service charge remains unpaid for 30 days after the notice of delinquency is sent, the City Council may also, on or before October 15 of each year, certify the unpaid emergency service charge to the County Auditor in which the recipient of the services owns real property for collection with property taxes, or the property owner for where an emergency service was performed. The County Auditor is responsible for remitting to the city all charges collected on behalf of the city. The city must give the property owner notice of its intent to certify the unpaid emergency service charge by September 15. False alarms won't be billed as a fire call, if the property receives two or less per year.

(Ord. 2011-02, passed 4-11-2011, amended 4-12-2021)

### ' 31.06 MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS.

When the city's Fire Department or Ambulance Service provides emergency service to another department pursuant to a mutual aid agreement, the billing will be determined by the mutual aid agreement.

(Ord. 2011-02, passed 4-11-2011, amended 4-12-2021)

### ' 31.07 APPLICATION OF COLLECTIONS TO BUDGET.

All collected emergency charges will be city funds and used to offset the expenses of the city's Fire Department or Ambulance Service for providing emergency services.

(Ord. 2011-02, passed 4-11-2011, amended 4-12-2021)

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Passed by the City Council of Blooming Prairie, Minnesota this 12th day of April, 2021.

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Mayor

Attested:

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City Administrator