

WASHINGTON COUNTY

ORDINANCE 24-01
WASHINGTON COUNTY ORDINANCE
AUTHORIZING DIRECTOR OF THE
WASHINGTON COUNTY AMBULANCE
SERVICE TO BILL FOR SERVICES AND
COLLECT UNPAID AMOUNTS DUE
FROM PATIENTS

WHEREAS, the State of Iowa adopted code section 421.65 giving the Iowa Department of Revenue authority to set off against public payments qualifying debts owed to a public agency; and

WHEREAS, the county and its ambulance service are a public agency eligible to participate in the setoff program; and

WHEREAS, the county's ambulance service sets reasonable, appropriate, market-based rates that it uses, applies, and charges for services rendered to patients; and

WHEREAS, the county's ambulance service charges fees for its services and then collects unpaid amounts due, including any and all amounts due that have not been paid by insurance, to patients by sending bills to patients and by contacting patients regarding the amounts owed to the ambulance service for the care patients received and for the services rendered by the ambulance service; and

WHEREAS, the county's ambulance service collects from its patients any liquidated sum certain, owing, and payable to the county's ambulance service, with respect to which the ambulance service has provided the obligor an opportunity to protest or challenge the sum in a manner in compliance with applicable law and due process, and which has been determined as owing through the challenge or protest, or for which the time period provided by the ambulance service to challenge or protest has expired; and

WHEREAS, after the county's ambulance service attempts to collect a debt from a patient but the debt remains unpaid, then the county's ambulance service also takes further steps to continue to try to recover the unpaid amounts due and owing; and

WHEREAS, in situations where the county's ambulance service has attempted to collect a debt from a patient, but the debt remains unpaid, the fur-

ther methods of collection include but are not limited to referring unpaid bills and patient accounts to a third-party debt collection agency and also sending notices to the Iowa Department of Revenue for participation in the State's Setoff Program; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of Washington County and its residents to specifically authorize the ambulance service to determine and set its fee schedule and to then use that fee schedule and apply it when charging fees for its services and when billing its patients, so that Washington County can continue to finance, fund, and operate its ambulance service in part with the money collected from patients; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, as follows:

1. Codification: Chapter of the Washington County Iowa Code of Ordinances is amended to add this new Article titled "WASHINGTON COUNTY AMBULANCE SERVICE BILLING AND COLLECTIONS"

2. Purpose: The purpose of this ordinance is to authorize the Washington County Ambulance Service to:

a. Establish and set its schedule of fees by setting pricing and determining how much services cost

b. Update, modify, or change its schedule of fees as often as necessary, as determined by and within the sole discretion of the director and the director's staff

c. Charge fees for its services to its patients

d. Determine how much to bill patients and what to charge to patients

e. Assess charges, fees, and amounts due to patients by billing the patients

f. Engage in debt collection activities to collect the unpaid amounts from the patients as well as from any other relevant third parties that may be involved such as insurance companies

g. Participate in the Iowa Department of Revenue's Setoff in compliance with Iowa Code section 421.65

h. Participate and appear in legal actions by

i. Filing legal claims or cases against patients to collect unpaid bills and debts, and

ii. Defend against any or

all actions or claims filed by patients against the ambulance service, including but not limited to actions for wrongful setoff, probate of estates, bankruptcy, or receivership.

3. Applicability: This ordinance shall apply to any and all fees or bills charged to patients by the Washington County Ambulance Service and is intended to comply with Iowa Code section 421.65 and any other Iowa Code section that provides for the State collection of debts owed to public agencies.

4. Reasonable Fees: The Washington County Ambulance Service shall set reasonable, appropriate, and competitive market-based rates it charges for services rendered to patients. The director and the director's staff are authorized to update, modify, or change its schedule of fees as often as necessary, as determined by and within the director's sole discretion. Payment of fees shall be made to the Washington County Ambulance Service and reported to the Board of Supervisors on an annual basis in the usual and normal course of reporting money collected for the benefit of the Washington County Ambulance Service.

5. Responsibility: The Director of the Washington County Ambulance Service shall be responsible for developing and implementing policies, procedures, and protocols to ensure emergency medical services provided are charged, billed, and collected in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and standards. The Washington County Ambulance Service may collect any liquidated sum certain, owing, and payable to the Washington County Ambulance Service, with respect to which the ambulance service has provided the obligor an opportunity to protest or challenge the sum in a manner in compliance with applicable law and due process, and which has been determined as owing through the challenge or protest, or for which the time period provided by the ambulance service to challenge or protest has expired.

6. Notice: The Washington County Ambulance Service will send a notice to patient obligors stating any liquidated sum certain, owing, and payable to the Washington County Ambulance Service. The ambulance service will provide the obligor with an opportunity to protest or challenge the sum in a manner in compliance with applicable law and due process.

Patient obligors who wish to dispute or

challenge their bill must submit their dispute in writing to the Washington County Ambulance within fifteen (15) days after the Washington County Ambulance Service has mailed the notice of patient's options to dispute or challenge the patient's bill (the invoice due and payable to Washington County Ambulance Service).

If the patient obligor submits a written contest or dispute to the Washington County Ambulance Service, then the Washington County Ambulance shall respond within thirty (30) days after receiving the party's challenge or dispute and indicate:

a. The time when the County will review the relevant facts of the challenge with the obligor; and

b. A statement to the obligor that an alternative time may be set at the request of the obligor; and

c. A statement to the obligor that if the obligor does not participate in the review at the scheduled time and an alternative time is not requested and approved, the review shall take place without the obligor being present.

d. Information in favor of the obligor shall be considered at the review only if that information is presented or offered at the review. Information in favor of the ambulance service shall be considered in the review.

7. Outcome of review: If a review occurs because a patient obligor submits a challenge or dispute within fifteen days after the notice was mailed by the ambulance service, then the patient obligor will continue to owe the amount due unless the outcome of the review is one of the following:

a. a determination that the debt is not a qualified debt, or

b. the bill is erroneous because of a mistake of fact, including a mistake in the identity of the obligor, or a mistake in the amount owed.

Only those two grounds shall be considered as a reason to reduce or eliminate the amount due from the disputing or challenging patient obligor.

If it has been determined as owing through the challenge or protest, or, if the time period provided by the ambulance service to challenge or protest has expired, then the Washington County Ambulance Service shall have the option and authority to engage in collection activities to try to collect. This includes but is not limited to submitting the unpaid billing invoice to the Iowa Department of Revenue's Setoff Program, referring the account to a third-party

debt collection service, and filing claims against or taking legal action against the patient-obligor.

8. Failure to provide notice to the County: The Washington County Ambulance Service may object to non-payment of a portion or all of a patient obligor's bill based on the patient obligor's failure to timely dispute or challenge the unpaid fee or bill.

9. Severability: If any section, provision, or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, illegal or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision, or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

10. Effective Date: This ordinance shall take effect after its final passage and upon publication as part of the proceedings of the Board of Supervisors.

Date: 9-10-2024

s/ Richard L. Young
RICHARD L. YOUNG, CHAIRPERSON
Washington County Board of Supervisors

s/ Robert C. Yoder
ROBERT C. YODER VICE-CHAIRPERSON
Washington County Board of Supervisors

s/ Jack Seward Jr
JACK SEWARD JR
Washington County Board of Supervisors

s/ Stan D. Stoops
STAN D. STOOPS
Washington County Board of Supervisors

s/ Marcus J. Fedler
MARCUS J. FEDLER
Washington County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST

s/ Daniel L. Widmer
DANIEL L. WIDMER
Washington County Auditor

1st reading 9-3-2024

2nd reading 9-10-2024

3rd reading 9-10-2024

Approval 9-10-2024

Publish date

Recorded

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CITY OF RIVERSIDE

Section 00 1113 - SUDAS NOTICE TO BIDDERS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**JURISDICTION OF CITY OF RIVERSIDE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by City of Riverside on the proposed contract documents (plans, specifications, and form of contract) and estimated cost for the improvement at its meeting at 6:00 P.M. on January 21, 2025 in the City Council Chambers located at the Riverside City Hall, 60 Greene Street in Riverside, Iowa for the Hall Park Pickleball Courts project.

Sealed bids for the work comprising each improvement as stated below must be filed before 2:00 P.M. according to the clock in the office of Riverside City Hall on February 12, 2025, in the office of the Riverside City Hall, 60 Greene Street in Riverside, Iowa. Bids received after the deadline for submission of bids as stated herein shall not be considered and shall be returned to the late bidder unopened.

Sealed proposals will be opened and bids tabulated at 2:00 P.M. on February 12, 2025 in Riverside City Hall for consideration by the City of Riverside at its meeting on February 17, 2025.

Work on the improvement shall be commenced immediately upon approval of the contract by the Council, and be com-

pleted as stated below.

Copies of the contract documents are available from Axiom Consultants, 300 S. Clinton Street, #200, Iowa City, Iowa 52240. Please contact Danielle Cavanaugh at dcavanyar@axiom-con.com or (319) 519-6220 to request a copy of the bid documents. At the time of request, bidders will receive an electronic copy of the bidding plans and specifications. If a paper copy is requested, a full set of specifications and an 11"x17" size set of bidding plans will be mailed one time, free of charge to prospective bidder. Bidders are welcome to pick up paper copies from Axiom Consultants as long as they are requested prior to being picked up.

By virtue of statutory authority, preference will be given to products and provisions grown and coal produced within the State of Iowa, and to Iowa domestic labor, to the extent lawfully required under Iowa statutes.

In accordance with Iowa statutes, a resident bidder shall be allowed a preference as against a nonresident bidder from a state or foreign country if that state or foreign country gives or requires any preference to bidders from that state or foreign country, including but not limited to any preference to bidders, the imposition of any type of labor force preference, or any other form of preferential treatment to bidders or laborers from that state or foreign country. The preference allowed shall be equal to the preference given or required by the state or foreign country in which the nonresident bidder is a resident. In the instance

of a resident labor force preference, a nonresident bidder shall apply the same resident labor force preference to a public improvement in this state as would be required in the construction of a public improvement by the state or foreign country in which the nonresident bidder is a resident.

GENERAL NATURE OF THE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT HALL PARK PICKLEBALL COURTS PROJECT

Summary Project Description: City of Riverside's Hall Park Pickleball Courts project includes the construction of a new pickleball courts and trail connection in Hall Park. Work included in this project includes PCC trail paving, HMA court paving, color coat court surfacing, posts and netting, fencing and gates, pavement markings, segmental block retaining wall, erosion control, and site restoration.

Each bidder shall accompany its bid with bid security as defined in Iowa Code Section 26.8, as security that the successful bidder will enter into a contract for the work bid upon and will furnish after the award of contract a corporate surety bond, in a form acceptable to the jurisdiction, for the faithful performance of the contract, in an amount equal to 5% of the amount of the contract. The bidder's security shall be in the amount fixed in the instruction to Bidders and shall be in the form of a cashier's check or a certified check drawn on an FDIC insured bank in Iowa or on an FDIC insured bank chartered under the laws of the United States; or a bid bond on the form provided in the contract documents with corporate surety satisfactory to the jurisdiction. The bid shall contain no condition except as provided in the specifications.

The City of Riverside reserves the right to defer acceptance of any bid for a period of sixty (60) calendar days after receipt of bids and no bid may be withdrawn during this period.

Each successful bidder will be required to furnish a corporate surety bond in an amount equal to 100% of its contract price. Said bond shall be issued by a responsible surety approved by City of Riverside and shall guarantee the faithful performance of the contract and the terms and conditions therein contained and shall guarantee the prompt payment of all material and labor, and protect and save harmless City of Riverside from claims and damages of any kind caused by the operations of the contract and shall also guarantee the maintenance of the improvement caused by failures in materials and construction for a period of two years from and after acceptance of the contract. The guaranteed maintenance period for new paving shall be four years.

The City of Riverside, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000d to 2000d-4 and Title 49, Code of Federal

preference allowed shall be equal to the preference given or required by the state or foreign country in which the nonresident bidder is a resident. In the instance of a resident labor force preference, a nonresident bidder shall apply the same resident labor force preference to a public improvement in this state as would be required in the construction of a public improvement by the state or foreign country in which the nonresident bidder is a resident.

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Regulations, Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, Nondiscrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

Contractor shall fully complete the Base Bid project by (no later than) June 20, 2025.

The City of Riverside does hereby reserve the right to reject any or all bids, to waive informalities, and to enter into such contract, or contracts, as it shall deem to be in the best interest of the jurisdiction.

A pre-bid conference will be held on February 05, 2025 at 10:00 A.M., in the City Council Chambers located at Riverside City Hall, 60 Greene Street, Riverside, Iowa. Immediately after the conference, a site tour will be conducted if necessary.

THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN BY AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF RIVERSIDE /S/ ALLEN SCHNEIDER, MAYOR CITY OF RIVERSIDE

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assisted programs of the Department of Transportation issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

Contractor shall fully complete the Base Bid project by (no later than) August 22, 2025.

The City of Riverside does hereby reserve the right to reject any or all bids, to waive informalities, and to enter into such contract, or contracts, as it shall deem to be in the best interest of the jurisdiction.

A pre-bid conference will be held on February 10, 2025 at 10:00 A.M., in the City Council Chambers located at Riverside City Hall, 60 Greene Street, Riverside, Iowa. Immediately after the conference, a site tour will be conducted if necessary.

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