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TOWN CLERK

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UXBRIDGE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 23, 2009

Present: Vice Chair Michael Potaski, Clerk Cari Kay Robertson, Bruce Desilets and Peter Baghdasarian. Also present Town Manager Michael Szlosek, Finance Director David Genereux and William Buma, Waste/Water Department.

Absent: Chair Kevin Kuros

NOTE: Some matters may have been taken out of agenda order but are presented below based on agenda order for ease of location information.

I. CALL TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M

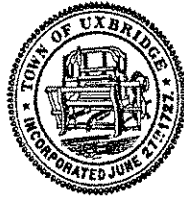
Vice Chairman Potaski called the meeting to order at 7:00PM with a pledge of allegiance to the flag.

A. Announcements – Mr. Desilets announced he will not be seeking re-election to the BOS. Vice Chair Potaski announced the resignation of Ms. Anne Lewis from the COA and thanked her for her service to the council. Anyone interested on serving on the council should submit a talent bank form to the BOS for appointment. In addition, Vice Chair Potaski announced the advertisement in the T& G of the Governor's proposal for release of stimulus money for education funding. However, it excluded the Town of Uxbridge. The Town Manager advised the Board, it is currently being reviewed and still under consideration by the general courts.

B. Citizen's Forum – No one wished to be heard.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS/SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

A. Public Hearing: Water & Sewer Rates – (cont. from 3/9/09) Vice Chair Potaski opened the public hearing. Mr. Genereux was present and reviewed his memorandum dated March 12, 2009 (attached to the minutes). As requested by the BOS, he presented a proposal for the water & sewer budgets with the reduction that town departments are facing via revenue share agreement. Discussion and public input included utilizing retained earnings, reducing department expenses, abatement funds, projected costs of maintenance/repairs, the projected rate increase due to the Clossen wellfield, potential charges for future hydrant use to fill tanks and consideration of an abatement leak policy. In addition, for voting procedures, it was suggested only water and sewer rate payers be allowed to vote and establish a Water & Sewer Commission. Atty. Mark Kablack representing Summerfield at Taft Hill was present and requested the Board to re-consider prior discussions with respect to charges and fees structures and possible rate reduction for affordable housing units at Summerfield at Taft Hill. Following public input and discussion, Vice Chair Potaski closed the public hearing. **Motion by Mr. Baghdasarian to adopt the water & sewer rates effective April 2009 as outlined in the Town of Uxbridge proposed 2009 Water and Sewer Rates and Rate Structure. Seconded by Mr. Potaski. Vote taken; motion FAILED 2: (Mr. Baghdasarian, Mr. Potaski) 2 (Ms. Robertson, Mr. Desilets). After further discussion amongst the Board, motion by Mr. Desilets to reconsider and adopt the**



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Water & Sewer Rates and Rate Structure. Seconded by Mr. Baghdasarian. Vote taken; motion PASSED 3: 1 (Ms. Robertson opposed) (Rate and Rates Structure attached to the minutes)

B. Public Hearing: Progressive Club, 18 Whitin St., Alcohol Sales/Consumption License Status; Change of Manager. Vice Chair Potaski opened and closed the public hearing. **Following discussion, Motion by Mr. Baghdasarian to grant the Change of Manager License to Joseph Gresian, II, Progressive Club, 18 Whitin Street subject to verification from the police chief and completion of a cori check. Seconded by Mr. Desilets. Vote taken; Motion PASSED unanimously.**

C. Appointment: Historic District Commission – Gregory Dubell – Full Member – term expiring 6/30/09. **Following discussion, motion by Ms. Robertson to appoint Gregory Dubell as a full member to the Historic District Commission. Seconded by Mr. Desilets. Vote taken; motion PASSED 3:1 (Mr. Baghdasarian abstained)**

D. Application: To consider an application for a One Day Alcohol License for 3/28/09 for Our Lady of the Valley Regional School, 75 Mendon Street, for the annual pitch tournament. **Motion by Ms. Robertson to grant the One Day Alcohol License for Our Lady of the Valley Regional School for 3/28/09. Seconded by Mr. Baghdasarian. Vote taken; Motion PASSED unanimously.**

III. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

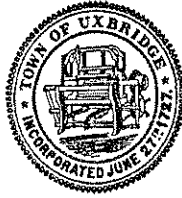
The Town Manager provided a brief report. BOS mail, correspondence and materials have been relocated to the adjacent room. Keys will be distributed. In addition, the Town Manager discussed the policy as relates to Class II licenses and advised the Board the town is not receiving the required bonds mandated by the state. The Town Manager will seek attaining the necessary bonds for FY 2010 to meet state requirements.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. FY 2009 & FY 2010 – Budget discussions – The Board will continue discussions at their next scheduled meeting March 25, 2009. No votes or action was taken.

B. Discuss Dispatch Regionalization with the Town of Millville – The Board will continue discussions at their next regular meeting April 13, 2009.

C. Discuss Crown & Eagle Road Status – The Town Manager advised the Board he has visited the site and has spoken to Town Counsel with regard to the wall/sidewalk repair at Crown & Eagle. Counsel advised street acceptance was previous pursued and the 120 day timeline for recording the documents at the registry of deeds expired. Therefore the town is not responsible for the repair work as it still remains a private way. To date, the town is the only party seeking resolution and is still awaiting input. The consensus of the Board was not to pursue or take any action related thereto.



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V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Crossen Wellfield: Tate & Howard – reporting - Postponed to the next regular BOS meeting.

B. Discuss/vote BOS Liasion to Public Access Television Committee – The Board voted unanimously to appoint Vice Chair Potaski liaison to the Public Access Television Committee.

C. Ambulance Rate Proposal – consider revised rate schedule – Following discussion, motion by Mr. Baghdasarian to approve the 2009 Ambulance Rates in accordance with the rate schedule dated February 19, 2009 (attached). Seconded by Mr. Desilets. Vote taken; motion PASSED unanimously.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER BUSINESS/MINUTES

Minutes. Motion by Ms. Robertson to approve the February 4, 2009 Special Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Mr. Desilets. Motion PASSED unanimously.

Minutes. Motion by Mr. Baghdasarian to approve the March 9, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Mr. Desilets. Motion PASSED unanimously.

Minutes. Motion by Ms. Robertson to approve the March 9, 2009 Executive Session Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Mr. Baghdasarian. Motion PASSED unanimously.

Minutes. Motion by Ms. Robertson to approve the March 12, 2009 Special Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Mr. Baghdasarian. Motion PASSED unanimously.

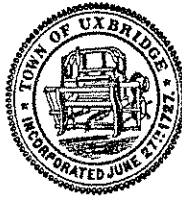
Minutes. Motion by Ms. Roberston to approve the March 16, 2009 Special Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Mr. Baghdasarian. Motion PASSED unanimously.

Minutes. Motion by Ms. Robertson to approve the March 18, 2009 Special Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Mr. Baghdasarian. Motion PASSED unanimously.

VIII EXECUTIVE SESSION (MGL c.39, §23B)

IX ADJOURNMENT: Next Special BOS Meetings

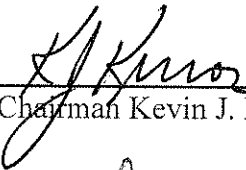
MOTION by Mr. Baghdasarian to adjourn the meeting at 9:20PM. Seconded by Mr. Desilets. Motion PASSED unanimously.



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Minutes respectfully submitted by, Tracey Ante

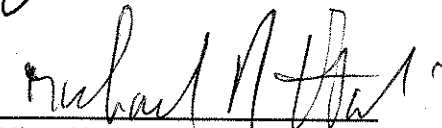
Minutes approved by Board of Selectmen:



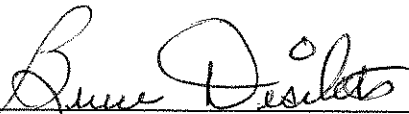
Chairman Kevin J. Kuros




Selectman Peter Baghdasarian



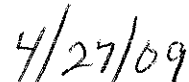
Vice Chairman Michael Potaski



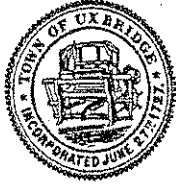
Selectman Bruce Desilets



Clerk Cari Kay Robertson
Attachments



Date Approved



TOWN OF UXBRIDGE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Town Hall Room 102
21 South Main Street
Uxbridge, MA 01569-1851
508-278-8600 Fax 508-278-8605

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FEB 23 3 35 PM '09

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF UXBRIDGE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
PUBLIC HEARING
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2009 @ 7:00PM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S OFFICE
UXBRIDGE TOWN HALL
21 SOUTH MAIN STREET
UXBRIDGE, MA 01569

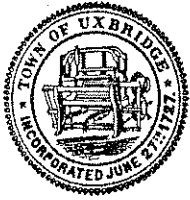
TOWN OF UXBRIDGE PROPOSED 2009 WATER AND SEWER RATES AND
RATE STRUCTURE

WATER RATES

	<u>Proposed</u>
0-800 CU/FT	\$21.65 Minimum
801-3,000 CU/FT	\$2.71/100 CU/FT
Over 3,000 CU/FT	\$3.15/100 CU/FT
Irrigation Rate	\$3.69/100 CU/FT
Water Connection Charge	\$1,200.00 per additional ½"
Fixed Rates :Capital Improvement Fees 1	\$6.47
Fixed Rates: Capital Improvement Fees 2	\$22.19

SEWER RATES

0-800 CU/FT	\$39.60 Minimum
Over 800 CU/FT	\$5.26/ 100 CU/FT
Sewer Flat Rate	\$123.00/Quarter
Septage Disposal	\$70.00/1,000 Gallons
Sewer Holding Tanks	\$10
Sewer Connection Charge	\$3,000
Fixed Rates: Capital Improvement Fees 1	\$6.95
Fixed Rates: Capital Improvement Fees 2	\$3.15
Fixed Rates: Capital Improvement Fees 3	\$1.90



TOWN OF UXBRIDGE
OFFICE OF THE FINANCE DIRECTOR
TOWN TREASURER/COLLECTOR
21 South Main Street
Uxbridge, MA 01569-1851
Phone 508-278-8606/8607 Fax 508-278-3751
findir@uxbridge-ma.gov

David A. Genereux
Finance Director

DATE: March 12, 2009
TO: Michael Szlosik, Town Manager
FROM: David Genereux, Finance Director
RE: Water & Sewer Rate Analysis

As you know, the Board of Selectmen, acting in their role as Water and Sewer Commissioners, at the rate hearing on Monday, March 9, requested that the water and sewer enterprise fund budgets be revisited, and that the final budget for those budgets to be in line with the reduction that town departments are facing via the revenue share agreement (-1.83%). The redone budgets are summarized in the table below:

Enterprise Budget	FY 2009 Budget	FY 2010 1 st Budget	FY 2010 Budget Resubmission	Difference	% Difference
Water Department	1,339,122	1,328,147	1,311,569	-27,553	-2.06%
Sewer Department	1,052,300	1,042,051	1,030,668	-21,632	-2.06%

Both departments' budgets have now been cut by more than the guideline cut that was factored into the general fund budgets.

I have also attached two spreadsheets that show the water and sewer consumption history over the past nine quarters. The letter tables below each sheet's consumption history show the potential effect of collections against budget under three different scenarios:

- Table A – leaving the rates unchanged for FY 2010 with actual consumption
- Table B – factoring the proposed rates for FY 2010 with actual consumption
- Table C – factoring the proposed rates with a potential seven percent decrease in consumption for FY 2010.

Be aware that the following assumptions were made in performing these calculations:

- That the May 2009 cycle will have the same consumption as May 2008
- That a 100% collections rate will occur (This is not the case, as the Town placed \$51,272.86 in water liens and \$54,474.03 in sewer liens in tax title on June 30, 2008)

The tables use either current or recommended rates (depending on the scenario), balanced against the total of the personnel and operating portions of the new enterprise fund budgets. The debt portion of the each budget is not considered; as it is paid for by the CIF rates. The total at the bottom shows the surplus or deficit remaining in each fund after the rates are tallied against the budget. The results of each follow:

Table A: Leaving the FY 2009 water/sewer rates unchanged for FY 2010; consumption at actual 2009:

- Water – Operating budget vs. collections: deficiency of \$113,585.16
- Sewer – Operating budget vs. collections: deficiency of \$23,159.55

Table B: Implementation of the recommended rates for FY 2010; consumption at actual 2009:

- Water – Operating budget vs. collections: deficiency of \$31,720.52
- Sewer – Operating budget vs. collections: surplus of \$80,181.36

Table C: Implementation of the recommended rates for FY 2010; consumption reduction of average 7 percent from actual 2009:

- Water – Operating budget vs. collections: deficiency of \$93,208.06
- Sewer – Operating budget vs. collections: surplus of \$10,778.71

The following factors were considered in crafting a recommendation:

1. The faltering economy, coupled with the increased awareness concerning water conservation, will likely keep downward pressure on consumption.
2. Water and sewer collections may not match expenses in FY 2009, due to the near seven percent consumption decrease that has been noted over the past three quarters. There is a possibility that water and sewer retained earnings (Absent the MTE settlement), as of 06/30/09 may drop.
3. The FY 2010 rates, as proposed, do not negatively impact the minimum charge users, as the increase in the overall rate is negated by the drop in CIF fees. Customers with water service at the minimum for all four quarters will see a decrease of \$7.16 per year. Sewer customers will see an increase of 1.72 per. Accounts with both services will drop by \$5.44 per year.
4. Table B for both rates shows a slight potential deficit for water, and small surplus for sewer, which has a low amount of retained earnings. Consumption for FY 2010 may likely fall somewhere between the consumption shown in Tables B & C.
5. This second evaluation method, budget vs. consumption, coupled with the first evaluation method, change in consumption, confirms the recommended increase.

I hereby recommend that the water sewer rate increases, as presented at the March 9, 2009 rate hearing, be adopted for FY 2010, effective April 1, 2009.

Attachments

Water Usage Quarterly Summary					
Bill Date	Reading Dates		# Days	Water Usage	Irrigation Usage
	From	To			
2/6/2007	9/19/2006	1/2/2007	105	7,542,039	-
5/10/2007	1/2/2007	4/2/2007	90	6,077,857	-
8/9/2007	4/2/2007	7/2/2007	90	8,142,485	-
11/7/2007	7/2/2007	10/3/2007	93	11,547,832	-
2/7/2008	10/3/2007	1/7/2008	96	6,993,411	-
5/9/2008	1/7/2008	4/1/2008	85	5,748,007	-
8/21/2008	4/1/2008	7/7/2008	97	8,097,392	1,841,642
11/7/2008	7/7/2008	10/15/2008	100	7,829,560	1,601,225
2/13/2009	10/15/2008	12/30/2008	76	5,444,620	85,743

Table A: Current Rates

Projected budget surplus/(deficit) @ level rates from FY 2009-FY 2010			
Projected Revenue (Excluding CIFs)			776,899.84
New Water Ent Budget (Excluding CIFs)			890,485.00
Surplus/(Deficit)			(113,585.16)

Table B: Proposed Rates

Projected budget surplus/(deficit) @ level usage from FY 2009-FY 2010			
Projected Revenue (Excluding CIFs)			858,764.48
New Water Ent Budget (Excluding CIFs)			890,485.00
Surplus/(Deficit)			(31,720.52)

Table C: Proposed Rates

Projected budget surplus/(deficit) @ -7% from FY 2009-FY 2010			
Projected Revenue (Excluding CIFs)			797,276.94
New Sewer Ent Budget (Excluding CIFs)			890,485.00
Surplus/(Deficit)			(93,208.06)

Sewer Usage Quarterly Summary				
Bill Date	Reading Dates		# Days	Sewer Usage
	From	To		
2/6/2007	9/19/2006	1/2/2007	105	5,367,229
5/10/2007	1/2/2007	4/2/2007	90	4,387,017
8/9/2007	4/2/2007	7/2/2007	90	5,627,644
11/7/2007	7/2/2007	10/3/2007	93	7,270,457
2/7/2008	10/3/2007	1/7/2008	96	5,093,193
5/9/2008	1/7/2008	4/1/2008	85	4,069,229
8/21/2008	4/1/2008	7/7/2008	97	5,155,843
11/7/2008	7/7/2008	10/15/2008	100	5,330,686
2/13/2009	10/15/2008	12/30/2008	76	3,897,975

Table A: Current Rates

Projected budget surplus/(deficit) @ level rates from FY 2009-FY 2010			
Projected Revenue (Excluding CIFs)			867,325.45
New Sewer Ent Budget (Excluding CIFs)			890,485.00
Surplus/(Deficit)			(23,159.55)

Table B: Proposed Rates

Projected budget surplus/(deficit) @ level usage from FY 2009-FY 2010			
Projected Revenue (Excluding CIFs)			970,666.36
New Sewer Ent Budget (Excluding CIFs)			890,485.00
Surplus/(Deficit)			80,181.36

Table C: Proposed Rates

Projected budget surplus/(deficit) @ -7% from FY 2009-FY 2010			
Projected Revenue (Excluding CIFs)			901,263.71
New Sewer Ent Budget (Excluding CIFs)			890,485.00
Surplus/(Deficit)			10,778.71

Proposed Quarterly Rates						
			FY 09		FY 10	
RATE	UNITS		CURRENT	avg usage	PROPOSED	avg usage
			RATE	bill	RATE*	bill
			quarterly	yearly	quarterly	yearly
UR-W-1	cubic feet	0-800	\$20.72	12000 CF	21.65	11160 CF
		801-3000	\$2.46	\$295.20	\$2.71	\$302.44
		3000+	\$2.86		\$3.15	
UR-W-2	cubic feet	all usage	\$3.35		\$3.69	
UR-S-1	cubic feet	0-800	\$36.00		\$39.60	
		801+	\$4.70	\$564.00	\$5.26	\$574.00
UR-S-2	flat rate		\$141.00	\$540.00	\$123.00	\$592.00
UR-S-3	campers		\$10		\$10	
	others					
UR-S-4	1000 gallons		\$70 / 100 gal		\$70 / 100 gal	
UR-SP-1			None		None	
UR-MR-1			None		None	
UR-LL-1			None		None	
CC-W			\$5,000		\$5,000	
CC-S			\$3,000		\$3,000	
CIF-W-1			\$6.91	\$27.64	\$6.47	\$25.88
CIF-W-2			\$24.47	\$97.88	\$22.19	\$88.76
CIF-S-1			\$7.91	\$31.64	\$6.95	\$27.80
CIF-S-2			\$3.63	\$14.52	\$3.15	\$12.60
CIF-S-3			\$3.63	\$14.52	\$1.90	\$7.60

* assumes all debt into CIF

Change to Average Water/Sewer Bill

	2009	2010	Difference
Average Usage*	12,000.00	11,160.00	(840.00)
Annual Water Charge	\$295.20	\$302.44	7.24
Annual Sewer Charge	\$564.00	\$574.00	10.00
Annual Water CIF 1	\$27.64	25.88	(1.76)
Annual Water CIF 2	\$97.88	88.76	(9.12)
Annual Sewer CIF 1	\$31.64	27.80	(3.84)
Annual Sewer CIF 2	\$14.52	12.60	(1.92)
Annual Sewer CIF 3	\$14.52	7.60	(6.92)
Total	1,045.40	1,039.08	(6.32)
Water Ave Change			(3.64)
Sewer Ave Change			(2.68)

* Average usage change is based on consumption for the first 3 billing cycles in FY 2008 as compared to the first 3 billing cycles in FY 2009

FY 10 WATER AND SEWER RATES

All rates effective April 2009

Bills may be a combination of multiple rates and fees

Considered for Adoption March 9, 2009

USAGE RATES (UR) -- WATER (W) -- SEWER (S)

	UNITS	RANGE	RATE	
UR-W-1	cubic feet	0-800	\$21.65	For water consumption billed quarterly
		801-3000	\$2.71 / 100 cf	
		3000+	\$3.15 / 100cf	
UR-W-2	cubic feet	all usage	\$3.69 / 100cf	For irrigation use billed quarterly
UR-S-1	cubic feet	0-800	\$39.60	For sewer disposal billed quarterly
		801+	\$5.26 / 100cf	
UR-S-2	flat rate		\$123.00	For sewer disposal on well water billed quarterly
UR-S-3	campers	per dump	\$10	For sewer disposal of campers billed at time of disposal
UR-S-IND	industrial	all usage	TBD	For future use
UR-S-4	septage	1000 gal	\$70 / 1000 gal	For septage disposal at time of disposal
UR-SP-1				Special rates for future use
UR-MR-1				Maintenance rates for future use
UR-LL-1				Life line rates for future use

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FEE (CIF) -- WATER (W) -- SEWER (S)		
CIF-W-1	existing debt	\$6.47
CIF-W-2	water tank	\$22.19
CIF-W-3		
CIF-W-4		
CIF-S-1	existing debt	\$6.95
CIF-S-2	lime silo	\$3.15
CIF-S-3	replace roofs	\$1.90
CIF-S-4		

These fees are based on project costs (yearly debt and interest) and charged proportionally to the number of dwelling units or equivalents as of December 31st of the prior year, for the life of the project payments. Each CIF to be charged separately. Commercial and Industrial equivalents will be based on the following:
 Water equivalents based on 1" service size for 1st equivalent and 1 equivalent per 1/2" dia over 1".
 Sewer equivalents based on residential equivalents (330 GPD) for septic design per CMR 310 15.203 (Title 5) as amended.

The Commissioners may also proportion project costs based on benefits to the Town to other means of funding.

CONNECTION CHARGES (CC) -- WATER (W) -- SEWER (S)			
	UNITS	RANGE	RATE
CC-W	per dia.	up to 1" over 1" per 1/2" dia	\$5,000 \$1,200
CC-S	per dwelling unit equivalents		\$3,000

This rate replaces the System Development Charge (SDC) for water connections based on the size of service at curb. Any increase in pipe size requires recalculation. Fire service lines are also charged under this rate as well as multiple connections.

This rate replaces the Sewer Privilege Fee (SPF) and is based on dwelling unit residential equivalents. All multi-unit buildings will be charged per number of dwelling units. Commercial and Industrial charges will be based on single family dwelling residential equivalents (330 GPD) for septic design per CMR 310 15.203 (Title 5) as amended. Any change of use requires recalculation.



PETER J. OSTROSKY CHIEF

RECEIVED


MAR 9 2009

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
UXBRIDGE, MA

DATE: February 19, 2009

TO: Uxbridge Board of Selectmen

THROUGH: Town Manager Jill Myers

FROM: Chief Ostroskey 

RE: Ambulance Rate Proposal

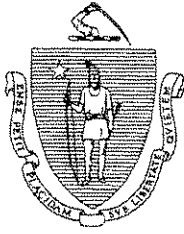
I respectfully request the Board of Selectmen consider the proposed revised rate schedule for the Ambulance Service. The most recent change in the rates for this service in Uxbridge was approved by the Board in April 2007. I have been in contact with our billing company, Coastal Medical Billing, and the proposed rates are in keeping with the rates of services in our area. The recommended rate structure is also in accordance with the Medicare rate structure.

This revised rate structure is in keeping with our past efforts to maintain parity with the area services and to reflect our increasing costs in providing services. We will also be seeing increased billing at the Advanced Life Support (ALS) level now that the department is licensed and operating at the Paramedic Level of service.

The table below lists the services we can provide through the ambulance service, the current rate and the proposed rate. Rate changes will take effect immediately upon your approval. It is my recommendation that the Board approve the rates as listed. The costs for medical equipment, supplies and services have all increased and these rates will help to provide resources to fund the service.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

<i>Service</i>	<i>2007 Rate</i>	<i>2009 Rate (proposed)</i>
BLS Non Emergency	\$300.00	340.35
BLS Base Rate	\$475.00	544.57
ALS Non Emergency	\$400.00	408.42
ALS Base Rate	\$635.00	646.67
ALS-2 Base Rate	\$820.00	935.97
Specialty Care	\$940.00	1106.15
Mileage	\$15.00	15.00
Oxygen	\$60.00	60.00
Airways	\$140.00	140.00
IV Therapy	\$140.00	140.00
Defibrillation	\$140.00	140.00
Monitor	\$140.00	140.00



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE GENERAL COURT
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

March 23, 2009

Dear Colleagues,

As you may know, the Governor announced on Thursday his intention to use \$168 million from the federal economic recovery funds for education funding across the state. Along with this announcement came the publication of a list of 166 districts that would require the funds in order to get up to "foundation level" for FY 10, assuming the Chapter 70 levels in House 1, the Governor's budget proposal. You may be receiving phone calls from constituents with concerns over this distribution and we wanted to help clarify this proposal.

We want to emphasize that this proposal is premised on the assumption that the House and Senate adopt the Governor's recommendations exactly as proposed. As you know, House 1 is simply the beginning of a very long budgetary process, and Senate leadership is working on the analysis of funding for education and how the federal stimulus dollars will affect budget recommendations. The distribution provided by the Governor should be looked at as further clarification of his proposals in House 1, and not a portrayal of final budget numbers adopted by the House and Senate. If the elements of the Chapter 70 proposal are not adopted exactly as proposed by the Governor, including changes in enrollment and district demographics, the list of districts and dollar amounts could potentially differ considerably from what was released last week. In the past, the Legislature has been committed to following through with the changes implemented in FY07, specifically with respect to reaching target contribution goals for municipalities. While the current economic climate makes that commitment more challenging, we are looking at any and all options to maximize funding to school districts. In addition, the amounts of aid to districts under IDEA and Title 1 that are being announced by the Governor are final numbers, because they are based on existing allocation formulas for distribution and grants.

We understand that, in your districts, school and municipal officials are waiting to hear what their education aid will be, and what help will be provided by the federal stimulus. Our goal is to provide concrete information to municipalities in a timely fashion, while at the same time, ensuring that federal stimulus dollars are used in a sustainable way to benefit the entire Commonwealth.

We look forward to working with you throughout this difficult budgetary process, and if you should have any questions about education funding or the federal stimulus process, please feel free to contact our offices.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Robert A. O'Leary in cursive.

ROBERT A. O'LEARY
Joint Committee on Education

Handwritten signature of Marc R. Pacheco in cursive.

MARC R. PACHECO
Joint Committee on Federal Stimulus Oversight