



Town of Livermore Falls

2 Main Street
Livermore Falls, ME 04254
(207) 897-3321

Billing for Fire Department Services Policy

1. Statement of Purpose

The Town of Livermore Falls is engaged in providing fire suppression, fire rescue and fire safety services and organized as a municipality under the laws of the State of Maine; and in consideration of services rendered hereby desires to set the following billing policy for Fire Department services. This policy is adopted pursuant to municipal home rule policy authority and Title 30-A, M.R.S.A. §3001.

2. Definitions

Extrication/Disentanglement Operations: Any time the extrication or cutting tools are needed to remove a person or object from a motor vehicle.

Fire Alarm: A device which activates to indicate presence of fire or smoke within a building or area of a building.

False Alarm: A fire alarm which has activated, but there is no presence of smoke or fire within the building or area of a building to which the alarm is assigned.

Fluid Mitigation: The use of an agent to clean or stop the spread of liquids.

Illegal Burns: Any fire that is ignited without a permit or any fire that contains illegal material.

Response: The activation of the fire department notification system which results in the deployment of personnel and/or equipment and apparatus from the Livermore Falls Fire Department.

Scene Safety and Traffic Control: Any time personnel are required to secure a scene or provide traffic control around a scene.

Suppression: An act to extinguish fire, halt the travel of smoke, ventilate excessive heat, or otherwise respond to an emergency situation.

Vehicle or Equipment Fire: Any automobile or piece of equipment that ignites.

Wildland Fire: Any woods or outside fire that ignites and burns out of control with or without a permit.

Year: A period involving 365 consecutive days. For the purpose of this policy, the year shall start with receipt of the first false alarm.

3. Fees for Services

Upon adoption of this Policy, the Select Board, in their expressed authority shall be authorized to review and set the fees as they deem in the best interest of the Town of Livermore Falls.

4. Explanation of Charges

Command and Scene Safety (Traffic Control): Positioning of fire apparatus and personnel so as to protect the scene from other traffic and deny entry into the scene of unauthorized personnel. Law Enforcement can then move traffic around the area the fire department has deemed a safe zone for the first responders on the scene. Safety staging other incoming agencies responding to this incident and may also include a pulled hose line for protection of people on scene from fires and fumes or residue from such things as gasoline and air bag propellants. The most important function is establishing command at incidents, and to coordinate with other responding agencies for accountability and their needs at the scene. Patient care is the responsibility of Emergency Medical Services personnel; however, the EMS personnel may request assistance.

Disentanglement Extrication: Any time a person must be lifted or taken out of an emergency situation and forcible entry is necessary to gain proper access to victims the fire department will assist ambulance of EMS (Emergency Medical Services) personnel in a coordinated effort on their own. This could include, but is not limited to: car accidents, industrial accidents, confined spaces, below grade rescues, or high angle rescues. Ropes, ladder devices, air monitoring equipment, self-contained breathing apparatus, hydraulic equipment, shoring, saws, cribbing, air bags are just a sample of the types of equipment used in extrication incidents.

Fire Alarm and False Alarm: Any alarm to which Livermore Falls Fire Department is dispatched that is the result of negligent or intentional acts with disregard to public safety.

Mitigation (Hazard and other mitigation activities): When fire department personnel must deal with any substances, including hazardous materials, via containment or absorption with pads for carbon-based substances like gas or oil, or removal of pads and sand or other means permitted by DEP (Department of Environmental Protection). This could be a car accident, trucking accident, or a fixed facility. The mitigation of all hazardous materials and substances is done in accordance with DEP standards and practices.

Suppression (fire, vehicle or equipment, wildland fire): Fire suppression is when the Livermore Falls fire department personnel have to contain or extinguish a fire. It can also be the laying of hose lines and positioning a hand line for the protection of individuals at the scene because of fire, smoke, or leaking fluids, such as gasoline.

5. Administration and Enforcement

It shall be the responsibility and duty of the Fire Chief to effectively pursue the requirements of this Policy for payment of services rendered by the Fire Department as specifically outlined and in accordance with this policy.

6. Billing Procedures:

The town of Livermore Falls shall contract with a third-party billing vendor to perform the billing and collection functions according to the following provisions:

1. The Fire Chief shall provide, by the last day of each month, to the vendor a list of calls for which the department deems appropriate for billing. Included in the list shall be all necessary information for the vendor to generate invoices.
2. First billing on or about the 15th of each month for all reports submitted for billing in the prior 30-day period.
 - a. Terms 30-days net, with the same billing parties involved in the same incident.
3. Second notice, if invoice has not been settled in 60 days.
4. 90-day notice sent by certified mail.
5. Collection agency to be contacted.

Considerations for write-off:

1. When the claim was not paid for a valid reason (insured not at fault, not covered).
2. Not covered and failed to pay after 60-day notice.
3. If all attempts to contact insurance companies and/or individuals failed by any common method available.

The Fee Schedule, Appendix A, shall be reviewed and updated annually by the select board.

7. Effective Date:

This policy shall take effect upon adoption by the Town of Livermore Falls select board.

8. Validity and Severability:

If any section of this policy is declared to be invalid, such decision shall not invalidate any other section or provision of this policy.

9. Conflict with other Policies:

This policy shall not in any way impair or remove the necessity of compliance with any other applicable rule, policy, regulation, bylaw, permit, or provision of law. Where this policy imposes a greater restriction upon the use of fire department services, the provisions of this policy shall control.

Signed and approved by the municipal officers on December 17, 2024.

William Kenniston, Chair

Jim Long, Vice Chair

John Barbioni

Jeffrey Bryant

Bruce Peary

Appendix A

As of the effective date of this policy the fees established by the Town of Livermore Falls Select Board, per section 3, of the Billing for Fire Department Services Policy shall be as follows:

Minimum response fee (1 hour minimum): \$250.00

Responses more than one hour shall be billed in half hour increments per the following:

10. Scene safety and traffic control: \$250.00 per hour
11. Extrication from vehicles, structures, and other land based settings: \$300.00 per hour
12. Water search and rescue responders: \$300.00 per hour
13. Structure, wildland equipment or vehicle fire: \$250.00 per hour
14. Assistance to EMS agencies, including LifeFlight; \$240.00 per hour
15. Hazardous materials situation: \$250.00 per hour
16. Responses requiring specialized equipment: \$300.00 per hour plus any equipment rental/acquisition costs
 - a. Tanker truck: \$250.00 per hour
 - b. Engine truck: \$250.00 per hour
 - c. Personnel:
 - i. Incident commander: \$40.00 per hour
 - ii. Officer: \$30.00 per hour
 - iii. Firefighter: \$25.00 per hour