

CHAPTER 5

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

ARTICLE I

PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

History: Adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Center Township as Ordinance 98-11-9, November 10, 1998.

§5-101. General

- A. The Board of Supervisors of Center Township finds that increasing costs of providing adequate safety and emergency services, including services resulting from extraordinary and dangerous occurrences and hazardous materials incidents, seriously impairs the Volunteer Fire Company's ability to provide all necessary Fire Company services.
- B. In order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare and to protect and preserve public funds and tax dollars, the Township hereby adopts a policy of reimbursement of expenses and costs incurred by the Volunteer Fire Company providing these services.

§5-102. Collection of Fees

- A. The Chief of the Volunteer Fire Company rendering the services shall invoice all fees for fire prevention and protection services and for other public safety and emergency services as set forth herein in Section 5-103. All invoices will be on Center Township letterhead. Such fees may include and encompass all manpower, equipment, materials, maintenance, and overhead expenses and costs which shall constitute full reimbursement to the Volunteer Fire Company for such services actually rendered and as hereinafter authorized. All fees and costs so invoiced shall be paid to the Township. The Township shall turn over the fees and costs collected to the appropriate fire company within thirty (30) days of receipt.
- B. Within thirty (30) days of the date of services or other public safety and emergency services as enumerated in Section 5-103, the Chief of the Volunteer Fire Company rendering the service shall submit an invoice on Center Township letterhead for all costs, fees, charges, and expenses related to the provision of such services to the property owner or the property owner's designated agent or representative. All such bills shall be paid in full within sixty (60) days of the receipt thereof, and interest shall

accumulate thereafter on any unpaid balances at the rate of one percent (1%) per month until paid.

- C. In addition, any bills, fines, or penalties, including but not limited to, containment costs, fees, or expenses, that are imposed upon the Volunteer Fire Companies by any local, state, or federal agency and related to the same situation or occurrence for which the Volunteer Fire Company rendered services may be included in the billing or may be billed separately within thirty (30) days of receipt and shall be paid as provided in Section 5-102 B.

§5-103. Fee Schedule

The Township will assess fees for emergency service responses including, but not limited to, motor vehicle accidents, motor vehicle fires, hazardous material emergencies, technical rescues, dive recoveries, utility stand-bys and negligent fires. Fees to be assessed will be established from time to time by Resolution of the Township Supervisors, and will be invoiced in fifteen (15) minute increments, beginning at the time of dispatch or notification and ceasing when the last unit is ready for service.

§5-104. Enforcement

The Township may enforce the provisions of this Article by civil action in a court of competent jurisdiction for the collection of any amounts due hereunder, plus attorney fees, or for any other relief that may be appropriate.