

Fire District #1 Prudential Committee

Open Session December 4, 2013

Call to order @6:30pm

Members present- Kevin Taugher, Ray Miner & Greg Sheehan

1. Comstar Presentation

- Jeff Tassi from Constar billing was in attendance to discuss with the Prudential Board his companies process and reporting capabilities pertaining to the ambulance service.
- KT- expressed concerns around the amount that the Prudential Committee was adjusting on a monthly basis in regards to ambulance receipts. KT also expressed an interest in a reporting system that could provide more detail so the committee could determine with a little more accuracy what exactly the lost revenue could be attributed to and if there was a way to recover a higher percentage of those adjustments.
- Jeff Tassi explained that they put collections in 2 different buckets. The insurance bucket and the no insurance bucket. He addressed KT concerns around the billing. Mr. Tassi explained that the reporting can basically be customized to the level of detail that we desired. He presented a sample report along with an activity tracking report by payor groups for the 120 communities that Comstar currently works with in MA.
- GS- asked for the cost associated with the Comstar service and what was included. Mr. Tassi responded 4% and that was all inclusive. That included reports, collections, service fees for credit card payments and even cashing of the checks from bills if we wanted.
- KT – asked about the transition if the committee decided to make a change. Mr. Tassi informed us that it is best to take over clean, perhaps at the beginning of the fiscal year. Mr. Tassi also reiterated what Capt. Schenker had told us in a previous meeting that there would be about a 90 day lag time before we would start seeing reimbursements after the change. That lag in accounts receivable should be addressed with the timing of any possible change.
- Mr. Tassi said the could take over the receivables from the previous provider but advised that sometimes it can get difficult working with the company losing the business and therefore suggested from experience that it is best to let the other company close out their collections and Comstar would start from the new contract date.
- Discussion ensued about whether the committee should contact the incumbent provider Medi-Comp and ask if they would like to meet to discuss our needs moving forward.
- KT- asked Capt. Schenker to contact Medi- Comp and ask them again about the reporting capabilities and offer them time on the January 16, agenda to discuss and demonstrate their reporting capabilities.

2. Vote on Tax Classification Hearing

- KT- explained that essentially the property values in District 1 went down by about 5.5% and as a result the district fire tax rate would be going from 2.08 in FY 13 to 2.24 in FY14.
- KT- also mentioned that District 2 tax rate would be going from 2.70 in FY13 to 2.80 in FY 14. He also mentioned that there was a discussion about adjusting the tax rate for commercial business to ease some of the burden but the impact would be minimal and it didn't make sense to make an issue out of it.
- RM- motion to recommend that the residential and commercial tax rate for Fire District 1 be at one and the same rate.

GS- 2nd

Unanimous Affirmative

- GS- Motion to authorize the District Clerk to submit appropriate paperwork for setting tax classification rate

RM- 2nd

Unanimous Affirmative

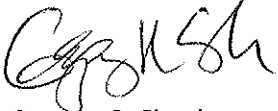
- GS- Motion to adjourn

RM-2nd

Unanimous Affirmative

Meeting Adjourned at 7:53pm

Respectfully submitted



Gregory R. Sheehan

Clerk, Prudential Committee