

MEETING ITEM COMMENTARY

- AGENDA ITEM:** (First Reading) Proposed Ordinance Amendment to Chapter 60 Ambulance Service to provide for an Annual Educational Funding Allocation and Annual Ambulance Division Equipment Reserve Fund
- COUNCIL RESOURCE:** Councilor Joshua Parks, Ward 2
- STAFF RESOURCES:** David Hamel, Fire Chief
Emily Cole-Prescott, Deputy City Administrator
- BACKGROUND:** Fire Chief Hamel has requested the creation of annual reserves for educational funding allocation and ambulance division equipment, both to be funded from the Ambulance Fund. To specify that the existing Ambulance Fund can be used for these purposes, staff has compiled the attached ordinance amendment for the City Council's consideration.
- EXHIBITS:**
1. Proposed Ordinance Amendment to Chapter 60: Ambulance Service
 2. [June 15, 2026 City Council New Business Materials](#)
- RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommend the City Council complete its First Reading and schedule the Public Hearing for this item.
- MOTION:**
- “Be it Ordered that the City Council approves the first reading of the proposed ordinance amendment to Chapter 60 Ambulance Service to provide for an annual educational funding allocation and annual ambulance division equipment reserve fund; and further moves to schedule the public hearing on July 20, 2026.”***
- “I move to approve the Order.”***

STAFF NOTE: *Recommended edits are shown in underlined red text below.*

Chapter 60

AMBULANCE SERVICE

§ 60-1.	Garaging of ambulance.	§ 60-4.	Collection and deposit of fees.
§ 60-2.	Fee schedule.	§ 60-5.	Ambulance Fund.
§ 60-3.	Service outside city.		

[HISTORY: Adopted by the City Council of the City of Saco 5-1-1995 as Ch. XXIV, Sec. 24-1, of the 1994 Code. Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Emergency telephone system — See Ch. 90.

Vehicles and traffic — See Ch. 211.

Mutual fire aid pacts — See Ch. 102, Art. IV.

§ 60-1. Garaging of ambulance.

The City of Saco ambulance shall be garaged at the Central Fire Station of the City of Saco.

§ 60-2. Fee schedule. ¹ [Amended 4-16-1996; 6-19-2000; 3-5-2001; 4-23-2007]

Fees shall be determined by Council after a public hearing, except for ambulance fees which will be adjusted annually according to the Medicare New England Fee Schedule, specifically, Maine locality 03, York and Cumberland Counties.

§ 60-3. Service outside city.

The ambulance will not service residents of other cities or towns outside the City limits unless that City or town has a mutual aid pact with Saco and provided that it shall have a comprehensive ambulance service.²

§ 60-4. Collection and deposit of fees.

All fees will be collected by the Finance Department and deposited in the Ambulance Fund account on a weekly basis.

§ 60-5. Ambulance Fund.

Effective January 1, 1994, an Ambulance Fund shall be established to perpetuate the purchase of City ambulances and to provide adequate funds for the continued service, operations, staffing, annual training, capital equipment, division equipment reserve, and contractual services, as well as the ongoing maintenance of ambulance equipment and vehicles. The fees collected shall be deposited by the Finance Department into a fund as aforementioned. As ambulances are purchased, any additional funds in that account shall remain for the purchase or replacement of equipment necessary for the operation of the municipal ambulance or the municipal

1. Editor's Note: Copies of the current fee schedule are on file in the office of the City Clerk.

2. Editor's Note: See also See Ch. 102, Fire Prevention, Art. IV, Mutual Fire Aid Pacts.

ambulance service as determined from time to time by the City Council. The process of accumulating funds shall continue as described above.

1. Annual Educational Funding Allocation: Ambulance Revenue Fund Balance can be used for purposes of annual education training requirements for the Fire Department. On an annual basis, the Fire Chief shall present a funding request for use of the Funds for the next fiscal year.
2. Annual Ambulance Division Equipment Reserve: Ambulance Revenue Fund can be used for purposes of ambulance division equipment reserve. On an annual basis, the Fire Chief shall present a funding request for use of the Funds for the next fiscal year.