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Adjustments made to stay comparable with neighboring communities

The cost of ambulance service in the Village of Saukville is about to get a little more expensive.

The Village Board unanimously approved new rates Tuesday, with the adjustments to take effect Aug. 1.

The board accepted the recommendations made by LifeQuest, the private company that handles ambulance billing for the Saukville Fire Department.

According to the new fee schedule, residents will be billed $450 for basic ambulance service — an increase of $25.

That same $25 increase will be applied to non-residents receiving basic ambulance care, although that base rate will now be $500.

The cost of transports requiring advanced life-support care will increase $25, to $525 for residents and $575 for non-residents.

Village officials were poised to approve the new rates several months ago, but held off until Port Washington set its new rates to avoid the temptation of people “shopping” for the best deal at accident scenes where mutual aid is provided.

Now that the Port Washington Fire Department is about to add paramedic service, its tiered charges for advanced life-support service will be significantly higher than Saukville’s new rate. Port’s rate for residents is $600, and $700 for non-residents.

Saukville did not adjust the $150 charge for on-scene care where an ambulance is dispatched and a person
receives basic life-support care but is not transported to a hospital, or refuses transport.

The charge for advanced life-support cases where no transport is made was bumped substantially, from $300 to $525 for residents and from $300 to $575 for non-residents.

The cost for basic medical procedures was also boosted. The charge to administer oxygen was raised from $40 to $60 and the charge for spinal immobilizations increased from $100 to $125.

The ambulance mileage fee was increased from $10 to $11 per mile for residents and from $10.50 to $11.50 for non-residents.