



DATE: December 15, 2011

TO: John Weidl, City of Princeton Administrator

FROM: Jodie Olson, City of Berlin Administrator

RE: Ambulance Questions

John, I will attempt to address your latest concerns regarding the ambulance service.

Will the City of Berlin bill back facility costs to the service? The answer is no. The City of Berlin has never done that and will continue to be responsible for its own ambulance facilities. This is evidenced by the fact that the CHN agreement does not include any bill back of facility costs in the line items. It has always been stated that we would continue our current process of not billing back facility costs. We had agreed that if a municipality stations an ambulance, the municipality agrees to find suitable housing for ambulances and EMTs at their cost. This includes the City of Berlin.

Does the \$32,000 payment for the ambulances include the equipment? As I stated to you on the phone earlier, when we negotiated the \$32,000 payment for the ambulances, the equipment was always part of the deal. I do not know of an exact inventory listing of the City of Princeton's equipment, but I do know that there is at least one significant piece of equipment that is actually owned by CHN (Zoll E-Series defibrillator). The agreement referenced the ambulances, but from our negotiation discussions it was certainly intended to mean with the equipment that goes along with them.

I understand there is a concern if Princeton were to ever need to restart up their service again that they would be without equipment. Therefore, if Princeton were to sever it's ties with the joint service, then the original pieces of equipment would simply be returned to the City of Princeton. It does need to be understood that any new equipment purchased under the new service would not go to the City of Princeton.

If the City of Princeton is interested in renegotiating any compensation for ambulances or equipment at this point, it is not going to be possible. The City of Berlin has negotiated these agreements (CHN, City of Princeton and other township agreements) in good faith and has bore expense in doing so. The CHN agreement was predicated on our negotiations of the \$32,000 and we will not be opening up that contract for renegotiation.

Can the City of Princeton have the option to purchase their ambulances back after the five-year period is up? First and foremost, there is no guarantee that at the end of those

five years any of the current ambulances will still be with the service. However, we certainly would be willing to give the City of Princeton first right of refusal at repurchasing ambulances in the event that they were being removed from service. If an ambulance was being replaced and being considered for trade-in, Princeton would be offered to purchase the vehicle for the trade-in price that would have been available from the dealership.

Can the City of Princeton not be held to the five-years in the agreement? The five-year term was something the City of Princeton requested during negotiations. This was not a request of the City of Berlin or any other municipality. Again, there is no interest in opening up contracts for renegotiation again. We believe we have fully-executed contracts with the City of Princeton at this point and are ready to move forward as is. With a little over two-weeks to going into effect, I do not find it reasonable or fair to request 9 other municipalities to reconsider contracts for reapproval. If significant issues turn up during the five-year period, we are open to reviewing the length of contract terms at that time.