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<u>Highway Superintendent</u> Kevin Nichols 518-358-4180	<u>Town Attorney</u> Richard Edwards 518-483-5531	<u>Code Officer</u> Robert Crossman 518-358-2259
<u>Tax Collector</u> Heather Peryea 518-538-8303	<u>Town Justice</u> Scott Brady 518-358-2499	<u>Town Council</u> Robert Reynolds Michael Armstrong Sean Barnes David Leonard
<u>Dog Control Officer</u> Kim Barcomb 518-651-1376	<u>Tax Assessor</u> Roseanne Gallagher 518-481-5320	

Resolution # 16 of 2023

WHEREAS, During the COVID-19 pandemic the cost of providing emergency medical services skyrocketed at an exponential rate. This increase has placed even more of a burden on volunteer fire departments already struggling to cover EMS costs, leading many to stop offering ambulatory services altogether. Funded primarily through existing fire taxes, departments could not afford to continue providing critical emergency services without raising people’s taxes;

On April 9, 2022, New York Governor Kathy Hochul signed the 2023 New York State budget. In that budget is the [EMS Cost Recovery Act](#), which allows – for the first time – volunteer fire departments to recover costs associated with their ambulance services;

With the EMS Cost Recovery Act now in law, our fire departments can now join the rest of the country and fairly bill for the EMS services that sustain the health and wellbeing of our communities. With this funding, departments can fully invest in the resources required to maintain EMS services;

WHEREAS, on August 15, 2022 the Westville Volunteer Fire Department met with the Westville Town Board seeking approval to bill for EMS Services; and

WHEREAS, the Westville Town Board determined that it would be in the best interest of the taxpayers, and that the revenue generated from this program will provide much needed equipment, enhancement and training for the Westville Volunteer Fire Department, without additional cost and increased taxes on Town residents; and

WHEREAS, after due deliberation, the Westville Town Board hereby grants the Westville Volunteer Fire Department the authority to seek reimbursement for EMS costs; and

NOW, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED; that a copy of this resolution approving fair billing for EMS services by the Westville Volunteer Fire Department be provided to the Westville Volunteer Fire Department, 3891 State Route 37, Constable, New York 12926; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; this resolution be entered into the minutes of the Westville Town Board meeting on this the 8th day of May, 2023.

Rod Lauzon, Town Supervisor

Michael Armstrong, Deputy Supervisor

David Leonard, Town Council

Sean Barnes, Town Council

Rob Reynolds, Town Council