

Explanation for increase in Dryden Ambulance tax rate

Due to virtually no volunteer Paramedics anymore and diminishing volunteer EMT's, Dryden Ambulance is having to rely almost entirely on paid personnel in order to provide Advance Life Support Ambulance Service to the Town of Dryden.

Further complicating the problem is fewer and fewer people are pursuing the Paramedic profession, primarily due to extremely low pay and a stressful work environment. Therefore there is a growing shortage of Paramedics forcing ambulance companies to compete in recruiting and retaining them with more attractive compensation plans. (Pay, benefits etc)

This situation, in addition to ever increasing price of vehicles, equipment, drugs, etc. is driving the cost of providing ambulance service extremely high and when Medicaid & Medicare only pay approximately 1/4 of the cost of a typical ambulance call, it is very difficult to cover costs. (Approximately 2/3rds of Dryden's 1800 calls in 2019 were Medicare/Medicaid pay.)

Dryden Ambulance is committed to remain a vital community based ambulance service providing exemplary pre-hospital emergency care. If you have any questions or concerns about our service or the costs associated with it, please feel free to contact Kevin Westcott, Director of Operations, Dryden Ambulance, 26 North St. Dryden NY 13053. 607-844-8124. Kwestcott@dryden.org.

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