

## **TOWN OF LINCOLNVILLE**

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November 14, 2024

Amy Drinkwater, Chair Wil O'Neal, Director Maine EMS Board 152 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0152

RE: Town of Rockport – Application for Transporting Ambulance Service

Dear Chair Drinkwater and Director O'Neal:

The Town of Lincolnville has been made aware that the Town of Rockport has applied to Maine EMS to become a Transporting Ambulance Service. For decades the Town of Rockport has participated with the Town of Lincolnville and other area communities in a regional ambulance service. While we respect the Town of Rockport's ability for self-determination, the choice has potential negative impacts on the current regional EMS and the Town of Lincolnville.

For example, if the contractual amount paid by the Town of Rockport to our the current regional EMS provider is apportioned among the remaining communities utilizing the regional service the Town of Lincolnville's share increases by an amount in excess of \$125,000. For a community of 2,312 that equates to an annual increase of more than \$54 per person or 78%. For any municipal service, a 78% increase in cost without a corresponding increase in the level of service for a user borders on unconscionable. For the Town of Lincolnville, a potential 78% cost increase would likely translate into the community seeking a diminution in the level of service to an affordable level. A lesser level of service at a greater cost serves no one well.

We believe that a regional service strengthens the region. Again, while we do not oppose the Town of Rockport exerting its ability for self-determination, it is important to recognize that this decision has implications, both financially and potentially to service quality, elsewhere.

Sincerely,

David B. Kinney
Town Administrator

cc: Jonathan Duke, Rockport Town Manager

Audra Caler, Camden Town Manager Samantha Mank, Hope Town Administrator

Rick Petrie, NEMHS