

Notes of the special meeting of the Jerusalem Town Board held on September 23, 2010 at 5:15 P.M. PRESENT were: Supervisor Jones, Councilperson Folts, Parson, Stewart, Town Clerk McMichael, Budget Officer Muscarella.

Guests: John Kuehn and Suzanne Valicenti of Sprague Insurance, Carrie Wheeler, John Phillips, Barry Martin, Rob Martin.

Suzanne Valicenti, Director of Operations, Sprague Insurance reviewed the handout comparing our current EPO, Blue Healthy Choices A benefits to the PPO option, Healthy Blue Co-pay \$15/\$25 option.

Major areas of concern when changing health care plans include:

1. Co-pay
2. Deductible
3. Co-insurance
4. Prescription

A rate sheet was distributed based on the Town's enrollment and Excellus billing statement for July 2010. These costs are subject to change because the 2011 rates will not be released until November 2010. The summary also included the cost of the Healthy Blue -2010- High Deductible Health Plan Option.

The Town of Jerusalem is considered a small business because we employ less than 50 people. Therefore, even though we are a local government, we pay the same rates as other entities with less than 50 employees.

Moving to an experience related plan by banning with other municipalities was discussed. Ms. Valicenti stated Excellus is not currently entertaining this as an option. Mr. Kuehn noted he has seen mixed reviews related to going self-insured with a third party administrator. The insurance industry will also be impacted by the healthcare reform act in the upcoming years.

Alternate PPO Benefit Plans were presented with an explanation of plan similarities and differences. The Blue Healthy Choices EPO plan we are currently enrolled in is now closed to new groups and Excellus is steering groups out of the EPO plans by increasing the premiums. Community rates are expected to be released November 2, 2010.

The voluntary Healthy Rewards Program wellness incentives were explained. The Healthy Blue platform recognizes the escalating cost of health care and it gives incentive for people to stay healthy to minimize claims, thereby minimizing rates.

Ms. Valicenti stated Sprague Insurance is here to help understand individual's benefits and needs. They will assist us in any way and offered to meet with individual employees to address their specific concerns. Sprague will facilitate the changeover to a new plan to make it seamless. As new plans roll out, Sprague will keep the Town informed, especially with the health care reform act. If there are any further questions following a complete review of the materials provided tonight, Mr. Kuehn asked they be submitted through the Supervisor and Mr. Kuehn will then respond.

Concerns were noted regarding the level of co-pays for prescription drugs (\$5/\$35/\$70) and excluding the Wellness Rewards component to the plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 P.M.

Sheila McMichael, Town Clerk