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July 26, 2022

Dear Hamilton Retiree:

My sincere apologies for the delay in mailing the Town's annual insurance memo. As you know, the open enrollment period for insurance typically runs during the month of June but unfortunately I was remiss in sending out the notice to our retiree group. Due to this delay, you will now have until August 15th to make any changes to your existing plans or to enroll in one of the Town's other plan offerings. Please note that changes made during this time will still follow a July 1, 2022 effective date however, any voluntary changes will result in a small retro amount as insurance premiums are due a month in advance.

The new rates for FY23 shown on the attached rate sheet reflect an increase of 4.92% in the health insurance rates; an increase of 3.0% in the dental rates and a 3.6% reduction on the Blue 20/20 vision plan. There is no change in the life insurance rates for FY23. Please note that the new vision plans, just like the dental plans, are paid 100% by the retiree.

As noted above, insurance premiums are withheld a month in advance; therefore the new rates shown on the attached rate sheet will be reflected in your July 2022 pension check along with any applicable retro amounts due. If you are a direct pay retiree, please submit the new monthly premium starting in August along with the appropriate retro for the months where the increase in premium was missed. The attached rate sheet will show retro amounts due for the respective plan.

Open enrollment is the only time during the year you are allowed to make voluntary changes to your coverage unless you have a qualifying event. Please take a moment to carefully review your health insurance benefits to ensure that you are enrolled in a plan that best fits your needs. Plan brochures and additional links can be found on the Town's website at www.hamiltonma.gov under Human Resources/Retirees.

Please note that the Medex plan year for Medicare retirees renews in January of each year. If you are soon to become Medicare eligible, please contact our office at least two months in advance to insure a timely transition to Medex II. For all other questions regarding insurance, please contact me at 978-626-5216, Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Again, my sincere apologies for this oversight.

Sincerely,

Dyan Katz
Assistant Finance Director/Town Accountant