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CHAPTER VII

FIRE REGULATIONS

ARTICLE I - FIRE REGULATIONS

SECTION 7-101: FIRE PREVENTION CODE

The rules and regulations promulgated by the office of the State Fire Marshal of the State of Nebraska relating to fire prevention are incorporated by reference into this code and made a part of this article as though spread at large herein, together with all subsequent amendments thereto. Three copies of the Fire Prevention Code shall be on file with the village clerk and shall be available for public inspection at any time that the village office is open for business.

SECTION 7-102: FIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT

It shall be the duty of all village officials to enforce the incorporated fire code provisions, and all infractions shall be immediately brought to the attention of the Village Board.

SECTION 7-103: LAWFUL ENTRY

It shall be the duty of the owner, lessee, or occupant of any building or structure, except the interiors of private dwellings, to allow the fire inspector, as designated by the Village Board, to inspect the structure for purposes of ascertaining and enumerating all conditions therein that are likely to cause fire, or any other violations of the provisions of the village ordinances affecting the hazard of fire.

SECTION 7-104: VIOLATION NOTICE

It shall be the duty of the owner, lessee, or occupant of any building or structure that was lawfully inspected as herein prescribed, and who receives written or verbal notice of a violation of any of the provisions of the village ordinances, to correct the condition within five days of the date of receipt of such notice.

SECTION 7-105: POISONOUS OR FLAMMABLE GAS

Any person, firm or corporation desiring to store or keep any form of poisonous or flammable gas in the Village for any period of time must first get permission from the Board of Trustees. The Board shall require the name of the gas, the place of storage, and the amount of gas stored. It shall then be the duty of the Board of Trustees to prescribe such rules, regulations and precautionary actions as it may deem necessary.

SECTION 7-106: SMOKING IN PUBLIC PLACES

It shall be unlawful for any person to ignite a lighter, strike a match, or indulge in the smoking of tobacco on or in any building or structure where public gatherings take place within the corporate limits while any entertainment, program, show, amusement, game, exhibition or other spectacle to which the general public is invited is in progress, or while patrons thereof are finding or leaving seats and standing room; provided, the foregoing shall not be construed to apply to banquets, dinners or entertainments held in any of the aforesaid buildings or structures where food is served and the entertainment takes place incidental thereto or in connection therewith.

SECTION 7-107: PROHIBITED FUELS

It shall be unlawful for any person to permit or allow crank case drainings, oil or other flammable substances, other than wood, to be burned in a homemade stove.

SECTION 7-108: BURNING PROHIBITED

It shall be unlawful for any person to set a fire of any kind, either contained fires, such as garbage and other refuse in barrels, or open burning of any kind.

SECTION 7-109: STOVES, FURNACES AND CHIMNEYS

All furnaces, stoves and other heating devices shall be installed at a proper distance from combustible materials and portions of the building. Any combustible materials or portions of the building that are dangerously close to such heating devices shall be protected by non-combustible material. This section shall apply both to existing structures and those which may hereafter be erected.

SECTION 7-110: PRESERVATION OF PROPERTY

Any police officer or official of the rural fire district shall have the power during the time of a fire to cause the removal of any private or public property whenever it shall become necessary to do so for the preservation of such property from fire, to prevent the spreading of fire, or to protect adjoining property. The said officials may direct the removal of any building, erection, fence or any part thereof for the purpose of checking the progress of any fire. The official in charge of the firefighting effort shall have the power to blow up, or cause to be blown up, with powder or otherwise, any building or erection during the progress of a fire for the purpose of extinguishing or halting the same.

SECTION 7-111: POWER OF ARREST

The village police or rural fire department chief shall have the power during the time of a fire and after its extinguishment to arrest any suspected arsonist or any person hindering or resisting the firefighting effort.

SECTION 7-112: FIRE INVESTIGATION

It shall be the duty of the village police department and the State Fire Marshal to investigate, or cause to be investigated, the cause, origin and circumstances of every fire occurring in the Village in which property has been destroyed or damaged when the damage exceeds \$500.00. All fires of unknown origin shall be reported, and such officers shall especially make an investigation and report as to whether such fire was the result of carelessness, accident or design. The officer making the investigation of fires occurring within the Village shall immediately notify the State Fire Marshal and shall, within one week of the occurrence of the fire, furnish him/her with a written statement of all the facts relating to the cause and origin of the fire, and such further information as he/she may call for.

SECTION 7-113: DRIVING OVER HOSE

It shall be unlawful for any person to drive a vehicle over any unprotected hose of the fire department unless authorized to do so by the fire department.

SECTION 7-114: TRAFFIC

Every vehicle within 500 feet of the fire station which is already stationary when the fire alarm shall have been sounded must remain so for a period of five minutes after the sounding of the fire alarm. No vehicle shall follow, approach or park closer than 500 feet to any fire vehicle or to any fire hydrant to which a hose is connected. Nothing herein shall be construed to apply to vehicles carrying doctors, members of the fire department or emergency vehicles.

SECTION 7-115: FALSE ALARM

It shall be unlawful for any person intentionally, and without good and reasonable cause, to raise any false alarm of fire.

SECTION 7-116: PEDESTRIANS

It shall be unlawful for any pedestrian to enter or remain in any street after a fire alarm shall have sounded until the fire trucks shall have completely passed.

SECTION 7-117: FIRE EQUIPMENT

It shall be unlawful for any person except the fire chief and the members of the fire department to molest, destroy, handle or in any other way to interfere with the use and storage of any of the fire trucks and other apparatus belonging to the fire department.

SECTION 7-118: INTERFERENCE

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to hinder or obstruct the fire chief or other members of the fire department in the performance of their duty.

SECTION 7-119: OBSTRUCTION

It shall be unlawful for any person to obstruct the use of any fire hydrant, or have or place any material within 15 feet of said hydrant. Any vehicle or material found as an obstruction may be immediately removed by the fire chief or any member of the fire department at the risk, cost and expense of the owner or claimant.

SECTION 7-120: ASSISTANCE

It shall be unlawful for any person to refuse to aid in extinguishing a fire or to assist in the removal and protection of property after the command of the fire chief or assistant fire chief.

SECTION 7-121: OPEN BURNING BAN; WAIVER

There shall be a statewide open burning ban on all bonfires, outdoor rubbish fires, and fires for the purpose of clearing land. The fire marshal or his/her designee may waive an open burning ban issued under this section for an area under his/her jurisdiction by issuing an open burning permit to a person requesting permission to conduct open burning. Said permit issued by the fire marshal shall be in writing, signed by the fire marshal and on a form provided by the state fire marshal.

The fire marshal or his/her designee may waive the open burning ban in his/her district when conditions are acceptable to the marshal. Anyone burning in such district when the open burning ban has been waived must notify the marshal of his/her intention to burn.

Source: Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-520.01

ARTICLE II - EXPLOSIVE MATERIAL

SECTION 7-201: STORAGE

Dynamite and other explosives shall be stored in a proper receptacle made of concrete, metal or stone, which shall be closed at all times except when actually in use. Such receptacle shall not be located in any room where there is a flame or flammable materials.

SECTION 7-202: BULLETS

Cartridges, shells and percussion caps shall be kept in their original containers away from flame, flammable materials and high explosives.

SECTION 7-203: BLASTING PERMITS

Any person wishing to discharge high explosives within the Village must secure a permit from the Village Board and shall discharge such explosives in conformance with such directives and precautions as may be prescribed under the direction and supervision of the fire chief.

SECTION 7-204: REGISTRATION

Any person keeping or storing dynamite, nitroglycerin, gun powder or other high explosives in any quantity shall register such information as the Board of Trustees may require with the village clerk, who shall forward such information to the fire chief.

ARTICLE III - FIREWORKS

SECTION 7-301: REGULATION OF USE, SALE, POSSESSION OF FIREWORKS

The use, sale, offer for sale, and possession of permissible fireworks in the Village of Oconto as defined by Neb. Rev. Stat. §28-1241, (Reissue 1985) shall be governed and regulated by Neb. Rev. Stat. §28-1241 to 28-1252, including any and all amendments thereto, together with any rules and regulations adopted by the State Fire Marshal for the enforcement of Neb. Rev. Stat. §28-1241 to 28-1252.

ARTICLE IV - PENAL PROVISION

SECTION 7-401: VIOLATION; PENALTY

Any person who shall violate or refuse to comply with the enforcement of any of the provisions of this chapter, whether set forth at full length herein or incorporated by reference, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and fined in a sum of not more than \$500.00. Each day's maintenance of the same shall constitute a separate offense.