POINT TOWNSHIP NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-06

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF TICKETS FOR THOSE OFFENSES AS DEFINED BY RESOLUTION RATHER THAN CITATIONS AS THE INITIAL FORM OF DUE PROCESS THEREBY PROMOTING THE BEST INTEREST OF THE RESIDENTS OF POINT TOWNSHIP BY PERMITTING THE RESOLUTION OF AN ALLEGED VIOLATION IN AN EXPEDITIOUS FASHION WITHOUT RESORTING TO THE COURTS TO RESOLVE THE MATTER.

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE SUPERVISORS OF POINT TOWHSHIP, NORTHUMBELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE SAME AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS

The ordinance shall be known and may be cited as the Quality of Life Ticketing Ordinance of the Point Township.

Section 1.1 The Purpose of the ordinance is:

A. To provide for a mechanism by means of issuance of tickets rather than citation to permit a citizen who believes he may have been in violation to pay the ticket rather than cause the issuance of a citation and a costly and protracted legal hearing before a judge and unnecessary appeals. The resolution in this manner is beneficial from a twofold perspective in that it permits the Township to maintain and enforce its laws and permits a citizen so accused to resolve the dispute in a manner that does not unduly burden the resident by requiring the issuance of a citation and a court hearing. It also does not deprive the citizen the right to dispute the ticket and receive the full benefit of procedural and substantive due process of law.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

OWNER. Any person, agent, operator, firm or corporation having a legal or equitable interest in the property; or recorded in the official records of the state, county or municipality as holding title to the property; or otherwise having control of the property, including the guardian of the estate of any such person, and the executor or administrator of the estate of such person if ordered to take possession of real property by a court.

PERSON. An individual, corporation, partnership or any other group acting as a unit.

VIOLATOR. See OWNER

SECTION 3. ENFORCEMENT

A. The provisions of any article so enumerated shall be enforced by police officers and code enforcement officers who are sworn to uphold and enforce the law of the municipality.

B. The Supervisors may change those sections to be covered under this Quality of Life Ticketing ordinance from time to time by resolution; however at the time of the adoption of the ordinance the following sections of the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code as adopted by Ordinance 2022-07 are hereby deemed and ordained to be under the jurisdiction of this process:

Section 302.4, Grass and Weeds Section 308, Rubbish and Garbage

- C. Any violation of the provisions on any article as enumerated in this chapter may be cause for a violation ticket to be issued to the violator.
 - D.A violation ticket shall be served upon the violator in the following manner:
 - 1. By handing the ticket or notice of violation to the violator.
 - 2. By handing it to an adult resident of the subject property.
 - 3. By leaving or affixing the notice or violation ticket to the property where the violation exists.
 - 4. By mailing the notice or violation ticket to the violator's address of record first class mail with a certificate of mailing.
- E. Each day after the issuance of a ticket that a violation continues or is permitted to continue constitutes a separate offense for which a separate fine may be imposed.
- F. If the Township has corrected a violation, the cost thereof shall be charged to the owner of the property by whatever means is available to the municipality.

SECTION 4. VIOLATION TICKET DISPOSITION.

A person in receipt of a violation ticket shall have 10 days within which time to pay the amount of the ticket. In the event the ticket is not paid within 10 days such failure to pay shall result in the issuance of a non-traffic citation for the offense as enumerated on the ticket.

SECTION 5. FINES AND PENALTIES.

- 1. For the first offense of the violation of this article within a 12 month period, the tickets shall be issued in the amount of \$25.00
- 2. For the second offense of the violation of this article within a 12 month period, the tickets shall be issued in the amount of \$50.00.
- 3. For the third offense of the violation of this article within a 12 month period, the tickets shall be issued in the amount of \$100.00.

4. For the fourth offense and all subsequent offenses of the violation of this article within a 12 month period, the tickets shall be issued in the amount \$300.00.

SECTION 6. APPEALS

Any person, firm or corporation to which the Township Police/Code Enforcement Officer issues a quality of life ticket for the violation of this ordinance may appeal the ticket within ten(10) days of the date of the violation ticket.

SECTION 7. SEVERABILITY.

The provisions of this ordinance are severable, and if any section, clause, sentence, part or provision thereof shall be held illegal, valid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision of the court shall not effect, impair or invalidate any of the remaining sections, clauses, sentences, parts or provisions of this Ordinance.

The provisions of any prior Ordinance which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency. This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED as an Ordinance of the Township of Point, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, this 9th day of November, 2022.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF POINT

Secretary

Randall Yoxheimer, Chairman

(Seal)

ATTESTATION

I, Amanda McClain, Secretary for the Township of Point do, by my above signature and seal, hereby attest and certify that the above ordinance was duly advertised according to law and was approved by a majority vote of the Point Township Board of Supervisors at their regular meeting held on November 9, 2022.