

Town of Richfield, Wood County, Wisconsin

Ordinance #2

ESTABLISHING FIRE PROTECTION CHARGES AND REGULATION OF BURNING.

WHEREAS, Section 60.55 Wisconsin Statutes authorizes Towns to charge property owners a portion or all of the costs of fire protection:

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest of the Town of Richfield to charge the costs of such protection of property to owners and to restrict deliberate burning;

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that unrestricted burning of grass, brush, yard waste or debris is contrary to the health, welfare and best interests of the residents of the Town of Richfield;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Board of Supervisors of the Town of Richfield does ordain as follows:

Section 1- State Authority:

Pursuant to Section 60.55 Wisconsin Statutes, the Town of Richfield, Wood County, hereby establishes the following policy and procedure for the payment of fire costs incurred by the Town of Richfield. All other ordinances or resolutions of the Town of Richfield contrary hereto are hereby repealed.

Section 2 – Liability for Fire Protection Costs:

The Town of Richfield, Wood County, Wisconsin, hereby imposes a charge for each fire call made within the limits of the Town of Richfield. Such fee shall be based on the established Town of Richfield Fee Schedule. If the call is to real estate located within the Town, the charges shall be imposed on all owners of the real estate to which the particular fire call is made. In the event that a call is not made to real estate located within the Town, but is instead made to a vehicle located on a public road within the Town, the charges provided for under this ordinance shall be imposed on all owners of such vehicle.

Section 3 – Billing and Payment Procedure:

The cost of fire calls as outlined above shall be billed by the Town Clerk to the property owner and paid to the Town Treasurer within sixty (60) days of the date of the bill. The failure to pay the bill within sixty (60) days will result in interest being charged at the rate of one and one-half percent (1 ½ %) per month from the date of the bill. Those bills remaining outstanding, including interest, for more than ninety (90) days as of November 1 of any year shall become a lien against the real estate from which fire protection was provided and shall be placed on the tax roll as a delinquent special charge pursuant to Section 66.60 of Wisconsin Statutes.

Section 4 – Careless or Negligent Burning:

Any person conducting voluntary burning, with or without a proper permit, shall be strictly liable for control of such fire. Such person and the owner of the property on which the burning is conducted shall fully reimburse the Town for the full expense of any fire call made necessary by such burning, voluntarily kindled or maintained, not limited to those charges provided at Section 2, above. All such charges may be billed to the property owner and charged as alien against the real estate, as provided by Section 3, above.

Section 5 – Separability of Provisions:

Should any section or provision of this ordinance be declared invalid, such decisions shall not affect the validity of remaining portions of this ordinance.

Section 6 – Effective Date:

This ordinance shall take effect from after passage and posting as provided by law.

Adopted this 13th day of May, 2013 by the Town Board of Supervisors of the Town of Richfield, Wood County.

For a signed copy please contact the Town of Richfield Clerk.