

Chapter 2.08

FIRE DEPARTMENT

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2.08.010 Creation and Purpose.

There is hereby created a fire department to be hereafter known as the Port Orford Volunteer Fire Department, the object of which shall be the prevention and suppression of fire and the protection of life and property within the city limits of the City of Port Orford, and within the limits of any area which the City of Port Orford may contract with to provide the services contemplated by this ordinance. (Ord. 2002-01, § 1, 2001)

2.08.020 Department Defined

The term “department” as hereinafter used in this ordinance shall mean the Port Orford

Volunteer Fire Department. (Ord. 2002-01, § 2, 2001)

2.08.030 Composition of Department

(A) The department shall consist of a Fire Chief, a minimum of two assistant volunteer officers, and such other volunteer officers and members as the Fire Chief may deem necessary for the effective operation of the department.

(B) The Fire Chief shall determine the number and kind of companies of which the department is to be composed and shall determine the response of such companies to alarms. (Ord. 2002-01, § 3, 2001)

2.08.040 Membership Qualifications.

The membership of the department shall consist of such persons as may be appointed by the Fire Chief and shall be able-bodied citizens residing within or near the confines of the Port Orford Rural Fire Protection District as determined by the Fire Chief, preferably those who have telephones in their homes. Determination of whether candidates for appointment are able-bodied shall be made by the Fire Chief, and the Fire Chief may require any candidate for appointment to undergo a medical and physical examination for the purpose of aiding the Fire Chief in determination as to the fitness of the candidate for appointment. (Ord. 2002-01, § 4, 2001)

2.08.050 Appointments of Members

(A) The Fire chief shall be elected by the members of the Volunteer Fire Department on a yearly basis and such selection shall be subject to ratification by the Common Council. Tenure of office shall depend upon good conduct and efficiency.

(B) The assistant officers and all other department and company officers shall be

appointed by the Fire Chief. Such officers shall be accountable only to the Fire Chief and shall be subject to removal by the fire Chief. (Ord. 2002-01 § 5, 2001)

2.08.060 Accountability of Members.

The fire Chief shall be held accountable to the Common council and shall make written and verbal reports thereto at such times and in such manner as the Council Liaison of the department may require. All other department and company officers shall be accountable to the Fire Chief only. Other members of the department and any company shall be accountable to their superiors and th Fire Chief. (Ord. 2002-01 § 6, 2001)

2.08.070 Suspension or Discharge of Members.

Any member of the department may be suspended or discharged from the department by the fire Chief at any time such action is deemed necessary for the good of the department. (Ord. 2002-01 § 7,2001)

2.08.080 Fire chief-Powers and Duties.

(A) The Fire Chief shall formulate a set of rules and regulation to govern the department and shall be responsible to the Common Council for the personnel, morale and general efficiency of the department.

(B) The Fire Chief shall at least one a month conduct suitable drills or instruction in the operation and handling of equipment, first aid and rescue work, salvage, a study of buildings in the City of Port Orford and any area with which the City of Port Orford has contracted to render the services contemplated by this ordinance, fire prevention, water supplies, and all other matters generally considered essential to good firemanship and to protect safety of life and property from fire.

(C) The Fire Chief is required to assist the proper authorities in suppressing the crime of arson by investigating or causing to be investigated the cause, origin and circumstances of all fires.

(D) (1) The Fire chief is hereby authorized to enter any and all buildings and premises during business hours for the purpose of making inspections and to serve written notice upon the owner or occupant to abate, within a specific time, any and all fire hazards that may be found.

(2) Any perso so served with a notice to abate any fire hazard or hazards shall comply therewith and promptly notify the Fire Chief.

(E) The Fire Chief shall see that complete records are kept of all fires, inspections, apparatus and minor equipment, personnel and other information about the work of the department. The Fire chief shall also maintain a current inventory of all city equipment along with current equipment sign-out records.

(F) The Fire Chief shall meet with and report quarterly to the Common Council on the condition of th apparatus and equipment; the number of fires during the month, their location and cause, and the date of same and loss occasioned thereby, the number and purpose of all other runs made; and the number of members responding to each fire or other run and any changes in membership. (ORD 2006-02, 2006)

(G) The Fire Chief shall make a complete annual report to the Common Council within one month after the close of the fiscal year, such report to include the information specified in subsection (f) of this section, together with comparative data for previous years and recommendation for improving the effectiveness of the department. (Ord 2002-01 § 8, 2001)

2.08.090 Purchase of Equipment.

Recommendations of apparatus and equipment needed shall be made by the Fire Chief, and after approval by the Common Council shall be purchased in such manner as may be designated by the Common Council. (Ord 2002-01 § 9, 2001)

2.08100 Storage and Use of Equipment

(A) No person shall use any fire apparatus or equipment for any private purpose; nor shall any person willfully and without proper authority take away or conceal any article used in any way by the department.

(B) No person shall enter any place where fire apparatus is housed or handle any apparatus or equipment belonging to the department unless accompanied by or having the special permission of an officer or authorized member of the department.(Ord. 2002-01 § 10, 2001)

2.08.110 Fire Protection Outside City Limits.

(A) The Common Council is hereby authorized to enter into agreement or contract with nearby incorporated communities or governing bodies of other organizations or the inhabitants of nearby areas to provide the members of such other communities or organizations or inhabitants with fire protections or to establish a mutual aid system.

(B) The officer in charge of the department shall have power to assign equipment for response to calls for outside aid in accordance with subsection (a) of this section and in other cases only when the absence of such equipment will not jeopardize protection in the city of Port

Orford. (Ord. 2002-01 § 11, 2001)

2.08.120 False Alarms Prohibited.

(A) No person shall turn in or cause to be turned in a false alarm.

(B) All automatic fire reporting devices shall be maintained in a good and working condition such that the device does not register a false alarm.

(C) The Common Council may by resolution set fees to be charged in the event a false alarm requires the deployment of the fire department.

For the purpose of this subsection a false alarm is defined as any violation of subsection (a) of this section or any violation of subsection (b) where the device turns in a false alarm more than once in a calendar year. (Ord. 2002-01 § 12, 2001)

2.08.130 Special Police Powers.

The Fire Chief and all such regular members of the department as the Fire Chief may designate, are given the necessary special police powers for the enforcement of the provisions of this ordinance. (Ord. 2002-01 § 13, 2001)

2.08.140 Severability.

The sections and subsections of this Ordinance are severable. The invalidity of one section or subsection shall not affect the validity of the remaining section or subsection. (Ord. 2002-01 § 15 2001)