

TITLE III COMMUNITY PROTECTION

CHAPTER 6 FIRE PROTECTION

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17-1 ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE. A volunteer fire department is hereby established to prevent and extinguish fires and to protect lives and property against fires, to promote fire prevention and fire safety, and to answer all emergency calls for which there is no other established agency.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.16)

17-2 ELECTION OF OFFICERS. The Fire Department, with the first business meeting January of each year, shall elect, by ballot of its membership, a Chief, a 1st Assistant, a 2nd Assistant, 3rd Assistant, and a corresponding Secretary, ~~and Treasurer~~. Results of the election shall be forwarded to the City Council for approval at the next council meeting. The officers of the Fire Department shall hold office for a period of one (1) year or until their successors qualify, unless sooner discharged or removed for cause by the Fire Department officers. Council shall be notified of a removal of an officer. Appeals of the removal of an officer shall be heard by City Council. Appeals must be in writing and filed at City Hall within 5 days of removal of an officer.

17-3 FIRE CHIEF'S DUTIES. The Fire Chief shall command all operations of the department, and be responsible for the care, maintenance, and use of all vehicles and equipment of the department. Subject to City Council approval, the Fire Chief shall establish and maintain departmental rules to carry out the requirements of this Ordinance. The Fire Chief has the authority to enter and inspect any building or premises in the performance of his or her duties and shall make written orders to correct any conditions that are likely to cause fire or endanger other buildings and property.

17-4 VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS. All persons who live within a radius of two (2) miles of the Durant fire station and are at least age eighteen (18), may be appointed to serve as a volunteer firefighter. All volunteers shall be selected by an election of the existing members of the Volunteer Fire Department, which selection shall be subject to the approval of the City Council. Prior to appointment as a volunteer firefighter, all applicants shall be required to complete a physical test as determined by the membership of the Fire Department. Removal and discipline of a member shall be governed by the internal policies of the Fire Department and handled by officers of the Fire Department. A removed member may appeal their removal to City Council by filing a written appeal with the City Hall within 5 days of his/her removal from the Fire Department.

17-5 FIRE FIGHTER'S DUTIES. When called by the Chief, all fire fighters shall report for duty immediately in the manner directed by the Chief. They shall be subject to call at any time. They shall obey strictly the commands of any other fire fighter who has been appointed by the Chief to be in command temporarily. Fire fighters shall report for training as ordered by the Chief.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13(4))

17-6 WORKER'S COMPENSATION AND HOSPITALIZATION INSURANCE. The City Council shall contract to insure the City against liability for worker's compensation and against statutory liability for the costs of hospitalization, nursing, and medical attention for volunteer fire fighters. All volunteer fire fighters shall be covered by the contract

17-7 LIABILITY INSURANCE. The City Council shall contract to insure against liability of the

City or members of the department for injuries, death or property damage arising out of and resulting from the performance of departmental duties

17-8 FIRES OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS. The department shall answer calls to fires and other emergencies outside the City limits if the Fire Chief determines that such emergency exists and that such action will not endanger persons and property within the City limits.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.16)

ADVISORY BOARD

17-9 FIRE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY BOARD. A Fire Department Advisory Board is hereby created to advise the City Council on the needed facilities and equipment to provide adequate fire protection for the City of Durant, and such rural areas as shall contract with the City of Durant for fire protection.

17-10 BOARD ORGANIZATION. The Board shall consist of two (2) representatives of the Durant City Council; one (1) township trustee or their designated representative from each rural township which shall contract with the City of Durant for fire protection and the officers of the Durant Fire Department. The Mayor shall be an ex officio member of the Board.

17-11 DUTIES OF THE BOARD. In addition to its duties to make plans and rules for the operation of the Fire Department, and to revise and update the plans and rules as required, the Board shall annually review and approve the budget prepared by the City Administrator and Fire Chief.

17-12 REPORTS. The Fire Department's revenue and expenditures shall be reported monthly by the City Clerk to the City Council as required by law. The Fire Chief or his representative shall make a report to the City Council of the Fire Department's activities once a year at the first council meetings in February of each calendar year prior to the annual township meeting. The Council shall be apprised of any additional equipment purchased by Fire Fighter's Inc. but a full accounting of Fire Fighter's Inc. shall not be required by City Council but may be required by the Auditors Office of the State of Iowa.

17-13 RULES. The Board shall have power to make rules and regulations for the operation of the Fire Department and the conduct and duty of its members, subject to the approval of the rules by the City Council.

(Ordinance B-4, Passed June 18, 1980)

(Ordinance Amended / /2016)