

AMENDMENT TO TOWN GENERAL ORDINANCE

FIRE DEPARTMENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the boards of a municipality are charged with providing for the Public Health and Safety of their residents and property;

WHEREAS the Village of Ridgeway and the Town of Ridgeway have jointly agreed to provide the Ridgeway Fire Department on a 50/50 agreement;

WHEREAS the Ridgeway Fire Department is chartered as a tax exempt, no stock, non profit Corporation under State Ch 181 of the State of Wisconsin with a 501C3 classification.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED :

(A) The town board of the Town of Ridgeway officially recognizes the Ridgeway Volunteer Fire Department which serves the property owners of both the Village of Ridgeway and the Town of Ridgeway and has reciprocal agreements with the adjoining City and Village Fire Departments.

(B) The Town of Ridgeway by action of the Town Board and the Village of Ridgeway by action of the Village Board share equally in providing a fire station for the Ridgeway Volunteer Fire Department and share equally in the cost of operating the Fire Department by providing funds as requested annually by submitting a printed operating budget to the Town Clerk in a timely manner so as to be included in the Town Annual Budget to levy taxes on the entire town as provided for in Wis Stats 60,55 (c).

(C) The Ridgeway Volunteer Fire Department shall be governed by a joint fire board of commissioners Wis Stats 60.57 (l)(b) and 60.57(3). The Fire Board shall consist of a board of 5 citizens, 3 of whom shall constitute a quorum Wis Stats 61.13(l) appointed by the Town Chairman and Village President annually between the last Monday and the first Monday of May, no more than 3 members that belong to the same political party. The Fire Board shall keep a record of its proceedings.

(D) The members of the department shall appoint the Chief of the Fire Department, adopt their by-laws and elect any other officers as called for.

(E) The board of fire commissions shall have the further power : Wis Stats 61.13

- (1) to organize and supervise the fire department and to prescribe rules and regulations for their control and management
- (2) to contract for and purchase all necessary apparatus and supplies for the use of the department under their supervision exclusive of the erection and control of the fire station building.
- (3) to audit all bills, claims and expenses of the fire department
- (4) Salaries of chief and subordinates shall be fixed by the fire board.

(F) The fire department shall carry its own insurance, including fire and extended coverage, liability, property damage and workmen's compensation.

(G) Fire chief duties and powers: The Fire chief shall enforce, or cause to be enforced all fire prevention ordinances, laws and regulations of the Village and Town and State.

(H) Police powers of the Fire Department:

(1) Authority at fires: The Fire chief and his assistants or officers in command are hereby vested with full and complete police authority at fires and may cause the arrest of any person failing to give the right-of-way to the Fire Department responding to a fire call

(2) Removal of property - The fire Chief shall have the power to cause the removal of any property whenever it shall become necessary for the preservation of such property from fire or to prevent the spread of fire or protect adjoining property. During the progress of any fire, he shall have the power to order the destruction of any property necessary to prevent the further spread of the fire. He shall also have the power to cause the removal of all wires or other facilities and the turning off of all electricity or other services where the same impede the work of the Fire Department during the progress of a fire.

(3) Monies received by the Fire Department as donations or as fund raisers shall be maintained by the secretary/treasurer of the fire department in separate accounts as the fire department determines necessary: expenditures from said accounts shall be approved by fire department , its officers, directors, trustees and members