

ORDINANCE NO. 29

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT IN THE CITY OF HUNTER, KANSAS, ITS ORGANIZATION, GOVERNMENT, AND REGULATION, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEN OF THE CITY OF HUNTER, KANSAS:

SECTION 1. That there be and hereby is established a fire department in the City of Hunter, Kansas, to consist of a chief, an assistant chief, and not less than 10 or more than 15 men, who shall be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Councilmen.

SECTION 2. That members of the fire department shall all be volunteers. They shall meet at least once each month for practice and drill and as compensation for attending such meetings they shall be exempt from poll tax. The chief shall keep a record of attendance of such meetings and no member shall be exempt from said poll tax unless he attends at least 8 meetings each year. Any member who shall fail to attend 6 consecutive meetings shall automatically become expelled from membership.

SECTION 3. The chief of the fire department shall be under the supervision of the Mayor and shall have superintendency and control over and be responsible for the care and condition of the fire apparatus and equipment, and it shall be his duty to see that all such apparatus and equipment shall be at all times ready for immediate use, and shall supply written report as to its condition to the Mayor and Council at their next meeting in October.

SECTION 4. The chief of the fire department shall be responsible for the discipline of members and is hereby given the authority to suspend or expel any member for the refusal to obey orders, or for misconduct or failure to do his duty at a fire. The chief shall also have the right to summon any and all persons present to aid in extinguishing a fire, or to aid in removing personal property from any building or fire or in danger thereof, and in guarding the same.

SECTION 5. The chief of the fire department shall have full power, control and command over all persons whomsoever present at fires, and he shall direct the use of all fire apparatus and equipment, and command all firemen in the discharge of their duties. He shall take such measures as he may deem necessary in the preservation and protection of property and the extinguishing of fires.

SECTION 6. The chief of the fire department shall keep in convenient form a complete record of all fires. Such information shall include the time and location, construction of building, owner, occupancy, how extinguished, value of building and contents, loss of building and contents, insurance on building and contents, members responding to the alarm and any information deemed advisable.

SECTION 7. It shall be the duty of the chief of the fire department to adopt all prudent measures for the prevention of fires and for this purpose he or his assistant under his direction may, upon request or whenever he has reason to believe that the safety of life and property demands it, and as often as he may deem necessary, enter any building, yard or premises in the city during reasonable hours for the purpose of inspection, and where dangerous, unsafe or hazardous conditions are found to exist he shall give such direction for the alteration, change or removal or better care or management of the same as he may deem proper, and such directions shall be obeyed and complied with by the person directed in that regard at their expense.

SECTION 8. In the absence of the chief, the assistant chief shall perform all the duties and have all the authority and responsibility of the chief as conferred by this ordinance.

SECTION 9. All fire apparatus and equipment is hereby given and granted the exclusive right-of-way over and through all streets, avenues, alleys, and public thoroughfares in the city while en route to fires or in response to any alarm, and it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to in any manner obstruct or hinder the apparatus or equipment.

SECTION 10. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to drive any wagon, carriage, automobile, truck, locomotive, railroad car or any other vehicle over any fire hose laid in any street, avenue, alley, bridge or vacant lot. Provided, that this section shall not apply to any apparatus or vehicle belonging to the fire department.

SECTION 11. No person shall place or caused to be placed upon or about any fire hydrant any rubbish, building material, fence, or other obstruction of any character whatsoever, in any manner to obstruct, hinder, or delay the fire department in the performance of its duties in case of fire. Nor shall any person hitch or cause to be hitched to any fire hydrant, any animal or animals, nor fasten to same any guy rope or brace, nor back or stand any wagon, truck, automobile or other vehicle within 15 feet of any such hydrant.

SECTION 12. It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to make or sound or cause to be made or sounded or by any other means any false alarm of fire without reasonable cause.

SECTION 13. No person or persons shall use any fire apparatus or equipment for any private purpose, nor shall any person willfully and without proper authority remove, take away, keep or conceal any tool, appliance or other article used in any way by the fire department.

SECTION 14. Any person or persons violating any of the provisions of this ordinance or refusing or neglecting to comply with any of the requirements thereof, shall, upon conviction, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and fined not less than five (\$5.00) dollars nor more than fifty (\$50.00) dollars.

SECTION 15. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and legal publication.

Passed by the Council and Approved by the Mayor of the City of Hunter, Kansas, this 7th day of January, 1924.

APPROVED: Geo A. Baird, Mayor

ATTEST: W. H. Thompson, City Clerk

