

## Chapter 203

### FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION

#### ARTICLE I

#### Fire Department

**Section 203.010. Fire Department Established — Composition.** [R.O. 2013 §203.010; CC §70.010; CC 1991 §205.010]

There is hereby established a Fire Department for the City which shall consist of a Chief and such organized volunteer firemen as may be enrolled by the Chief with the consent of the Board of Aldermen.

**Section 203.020. Fire Department — Duties.** [R.O. 2013 §203.020; CC §70.020; CC 1991 §205.020]

The Fire Department shall have charge of the fire apparatus and shall keep the same in good order for immediate use, and for more effectually perfecting the firemen in discharge of their duties shall as often as practicable thoroughly test the condition of the fire-fighting apparatus. Upon arrival at any fire, the members present shall take all necessary and proper action to extinguish such fire as quickly as possible and with the least damage possible. The department shall take all reasonable steps necessary under the circumstances to prevent the spread of the fire and damage to adjoining property.

**Section 203.030. Fire Outside the City Limits.** [R.O. 2013 §203.030; CC §70.030; CC 1991 §205.030]

If a request is received for fire-fighting assistance outside the City limits, the Fire Chief may determine whether to answer such request depending upon the road conditions, water supply and other conditions at the time, and his/her decision shall be final. The decision of the Fire Chief shall in no way subject him/her to liability. In the event the Fire Department answers the call, it shall take only one (1) truck and not more than one-half (½) of the available members of the department.

**Section 203.040. Fire Chief — Duties.** [R.O. 2013 §203.040; CC §70.050; CC 1991 §205.050]

A. It shall be the duty of the Chief to examine and report quarterly to the Mayor the condition of the department and its equipment and to recommend such alterations and additions and changes as the department may in his/her judgment require. It shall also be his/her duty to ascertain and report to the Mayor the condition and efficiency of the Fire Department and if the department fails to observe and enforce its rules and regulations so as to impair the efficiency to report the same with such suggestions as he/she may deem most appropriate.

1. The Fire Chief shall examine all buildings and all places where explosives and

- inflammable materials are kept in the City and to report their condition at least once a year to the Mayor, and the Fire Chief is hereby authorized to enter any and all buildings and places for the purpose of inspecting same.
2. The Fire Chief shall from time to time report to the Mayor the condition of fire escapes on public buildings and on other buildings required by law to be provided with fire escapes.
  3. He/she shall keep an inventory of all the City Fire Department's property and equipment and report the same to the Mayor at least once a year.
  4. He/she shall keep informed and make a report as to the condition of the City water supply and fireplugs.
  5. He/she shall keep the department in good condition and at all times ready for inspection.
  6. In the exercise of these duties, the Fire Chief may delegate to the Assistant Chief or to other department members such responsibilities as in his/her judgment may be required.

**Section 203.050. Assistant Fire Chief — Duties.** [R.O. 2013 §203.050; CC §70.060; CC 1991 §205.060]

The Assistant Chief shall assume the duties of the Chief in his/her absence, or the vacancy of the office until a new Chief is appointed, and shall assist the Chief in the performance of his/her duties and shall obey his/her orders.

**Section 203.060. Firemen — Duties.** [R.O. 2013 §203.060; CC §70.070; CC 1991 §205.070]

The firemen shall be under the immediate control and direction of the Fire Chief and upon an alarm of fire shall without unnecessary delay report to the endangered premises with the City fire apparatus.

**Section 203.070. Compensation.** [R.O. 2013 §203.070; CC §70.080; CC 1991 §205.080]

Each fireman shall be compensated by the City in an amount as determined from time to time by the Board of Aldermen.

**Section 203.080. Fire Chief — Powers and Duties at Fires.** [R.O. 2013 §203.080; CC §70.090; CC 1991 §205.090]

- A. The Fire Chief shall have full power, control and command over all persons at a fire, excepting only City Police Officers on duty. He/she shall station the fire apparatus and see to it that all persons belonging to the Fire Department perform the duties required of them. It shall also be the duty of the Chief to direct at all fires such measures as he/she shall deem advisable for the extinguishment and control of such fires.
- B. The Chief and Assistant Chief of the Fire Department of this City are Acting Police Officers while on duty and have full authority to detain, direct or arrest any person who maliciously obstructs them in the service of their duty and to arrest any person who may be

pilfering, carrying away or stealing anything in time of fire, storms, tornadoes and flood.

## ARTICLE II

### **Burning**

**Section 203.090. Burning of Yard Waste.** [R.O. 2013 §203.090; CC §64.040; CC 1991 §215.040; Ord. No. 215.040, 5-13-2003]

- A. Burning limited within the corporate limits of the City, the open burning of residential yard waste consisting of leaves and brush from vegetation grown on a residential property is permitted.
1. The burning shall take place only between the daylight hours of daylight to dusk.
  2. The burning of paper, garbage, tires and other kinds of wastes is prohibited.
  3. All fires must be at least twenty (20) feet away from any building structure.
  4. At no time shall a fire be located on a City street, in the gutter or ditch along a City street.
  5. Fire-fighting material sufficient to contain any fire started under this Section will be at the site of the burning.
  6. All fires shall be monitored from a point on the property where the fire is located by a person capable of containing a fire should containment become necessary.
  7. If the safety of the community or the public may be endangered, the Mayor or Fire Chief may invoke a temporary burning ban.
  8. If climatological conditions indicate open burning may create a health hazard, the Mayor may invoke a temporary burning ban.
  9. A person engaged in open burning in violation of this Section shall be summonsed for an ordinance violation.
- B. This Section shall not apply to fireplaces located wholly within a residence, outdoor barbecues for the preparation of food, or properly supervised fires set for recreational or ceremonial purposes.