

BEFORE THE COMMON COUNCIL

THE CITY OF CHARLESTOWN, INDIANA

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-OR – 10

AN ORDINANCE UPDATING THE VEHICLE TOW-IN FEE ESTABLISHED BY 2000-OR-11 FOR THE CHARLESTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS the Charlestown Police Department (hereinafter the “Department”) must frequently order vehicles towed from public ways and private property within the City of Charlestown; and

WHEREAS, while from time to time the need to tow vehicles arises from circumstances outside of the vehicle owner’s control, more frequently the need to tow a vehicle arises from the vehicle owner or operator’s violation of local, state, or federal law; and

WHEREAS, each time the Department must order a vehicle towed, the Department incurs processing costs; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance 2000-OR-11 establishes a tow-in fee, at \$25.00 per occurrence, and directs the proceeds of the assessment of such fees to a non-reverting Department Training Fund; and

WHEREAS, since the adoption of Ordinance 2000-OR-11, the costs associated with the Department’s administrative activities have increased, making it appropriate that the associated tow-in fee should increase accordingly; and

WHEREAS, providing the Department with additional discretion to determine the appropriate use for such funds will better empower the Department to perform its vital functions of protecting and serving the Charlestown community.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by this Common Council of the City of Charlestown, Indiana the following:

1. Tow-in Fee: The Department shall continue to assess a tow-in fee for each vehicle which the Department orders towed, except in those instances where a vehicle must be towed as result of circumstances outside of the owner/operator's control. Effective as of the adoption of this Ordinance, this fee shall increase to the amount of forty-five dollars (\$45.00) per occurrence;
2. Fee Collection: Each and every entity that provides tow-in services for the Department shall collect the Department's tow-in fee along with any other fees or charges assessed by the towing entity prior to releasing the towed vehicle to its owner, and shall forward all such collected fees to the Department no less frequently than monthly; and
3. Fee Direction: Effective upon the adoption of this Ordinance, all tow-in fees collected pursuant to this Ordinance shall be directed to a non-reverting Department Fund which shall be administered by the Chief of the Department, and which may be applied to training, equipment, or any other expense deemed reasonably necessary by the Chief for the performance of the functions of the Department.

So Ordained this ____ day of _____, 2020

ALL OF WHICH IS RESOLVED AND ADOPTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHARLETOWN, INDIANA upon this date:_____.

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Bo Bertram
Bo Bertram

In Favor Opposed _____ Abstained _____

Ruthie Jackson
Ruthie Jackson

In Favor Opposed _____ Abstained _____

B. J. Steele
B. J. Steele

In Favor Opposed _____ Abstained _____

Brian Hester
Brian Hester

In Favor Opposed _____ Abstained _____

J. T. Cox
J. T. Cox

In Favor Opposed _____ Abstained _____

THIS ORDINANCE WAS APPROVED BY ME upon this date: 5-4-2020

Treva E Hodges
Treva Hodges, Mayor

ATTEST:

5-4-2020
Date

Donna Coomer
Donna Coomer
City Clerk-Treasurer