

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2016-01

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 34 OF THE CITY OF HARRIS CITY CODE RELATING TO THE OPERATION OF THE CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

The City Council of the City of Harris City hereby ordains as follows:

That Chapter 34 of the Harris City Code is hereby amended to read in its entirety as follows:

CHAPTER 34: FIRE DEPARTMENT

34.01 FIRE DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHED

There is hereby continued as heretofore established in the city, a Volunteer Fire Department, which Department shall have the following officers: a Fire Chief; a 1st Assistant Chief/Safety Officer; a 2nd Assistant Chief; a Training Captain and an EMR Captain.

34.02 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

The Fire Chief of the Fire Department shall be appointed by the City Council for a period of one year. Members of the Department will recommend, to the City Council, a nominee or nominees for appointment by submitting same in writing to the Council prior to January 1 of the year in which the appointment is to be made. The Fire Chief may be removed by Council without need to show cause.

The City Council shall appoint a Fire Marshall. The Fire Marshall shall hold office for one year from January 1 in the month of appointment. The Fire Marshall may be removed by Council without need to show cause.

Members of the Department elect the 1st Assistant Chief/Safety Officer, the 2nd Assistant Chief, the Training Captain, and the EMR Captain during their election meeting in December, for a period of one year. These positions will be subject to confirmation by the City Council. The above-named officers may be removed by the Council without need to show cause.

Firefighters and probationary firefighters shall be appointed by the Fire Chief, subject to confirmation by the City Council. Firefighters may be dismissed by the City Council for any or no reason.

34.03 DUTIES OF FIRE MARSHALL

The Fire Marshall will be charged with the enforcement of all ordinances aimed at fire prevention, and shall have full authority to inspect all premises and to cause the removal or abatement of all fire hazards.

34.04 DUTIES OF FIRE CHIEF

The Fire Chief shall have control over all of the firefighting apparatus and shall be solely responsible for its care and condition. The Fire Chief shall make monthly reports at each City Council meeting concerning the condition of the equipment and the needs of the Fire Department. At these Council meetings, the Fire Chief shall report any suspension of a member of the Fire Department at the first meeting following the suspension.

The Fire Chief shall be responsible for the proper training and discipline of the members of the Fire Department and may suspend any member, pending final action by the Council on either discharge or retention.

34.05 RECORDS

The Fire Chief shall keep, in convenient form, a complete record of all fires. The record shall include the time of the alarm, location of fire, cause of fire (if known), type of building, name of owner and tenant, purpose for which the building is occupied, value of building and contents, names of members of the Department responding to the alarm, and any other information as the Fire Chief may deem advisable or as may be required from time to time by the City Council or the State of Minnesota.

34.06 TRAINING DRILLS

It shall be the duty of the Fire Chief to hold a monthly training drill of at least two hour's duration for the Fire Department and to give the firefighters instruction in approved methods of firefighting and fire prevention.

34.07 OFFICERS

In the absence or disability of the Fire Chief, the 1st Assistant Chief/Safety Officer, the 2nd Assistant Chief, the Training Captain, or the EMR Captain, in order of rank, shall perform all the functions and exercise all of the authority of the Fire Chief, except for spending and budgeting authority.

34.08 FIREFIGHTERS

All firefighters and probationary firefighters shall be not less than 18 years of age and able-bodied. They shall become members of the Fire Department only after successfully completing a six-month probationary period. Each candidate, before becoming a firefighter, must satisfy certain physical agility requirements and satisfactorily pass a physical examination.

34.09 LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP

Firefighters who fail to attend at least 25% of all emergency calls, a minimum of 14 of the 20 inside training sessions and a minimum of 8 of the 12 duty rosters within the 12-month calendar period shall forfeit membership in the Department.

This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the official newspaper of the City of Harris.

Diane Miller
Mayor

ATTEST:

Joanne Dargay
City Clerk

Published in the _____ this _____ day of _____, 2016