TOWN OF RICHMOND AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FIRE PROTECTION CHARGES

The Town Board of the Town of Richmond, St. Croix County, Wisconsin, hereby ordains as follows:

SECTION I. AUTHORITY. This ordinance is adopted pursuant to the authority granted to town boards under Sec. 60.55(2)(b) of the Wisconsin Statutes, which allows towns to recover the cost of fire calls made to properties located within the town.

SECTION II. LIABILITY FOR FIRE PROTECTION COSTS. The Town of Richmond, St. Croix County, Wisconsin, hereby imposes a charge for each fire call made within the limits of the Town of Richmond. This fee shall not exceed the actual cost to the Town for the fire call. The fee charged to the Town is based on a fee schedule set by the New Richmond Fire and Rescue Department and approved by the Town Board and may include, without limitation, an hourly charge for responding Fire and Rescue personnel, a fee for use of extrication tools, and an hourly charge for use of each Fire and Rescue vehicle involved in the response. If the fire call is to real estate located within the Town, the charges shall be imposed on all owners of the real estate to which the particular fire call is made. The liability for the charges shall be joint and several as to all owners of the real estate. In the event that a fire call is made to personal property located with the Town, such as a vehicle, the charges provided for under this ordinance shall be imposed on all owners of such personal property. The liability for the charges shall be joint and several as to all owners of the personal property.

SECTION III. PAYMENT OF FIRE CALL FEE. The fire call charges provided for in this Ordinance shall be paid in full to the Clerk of the Town of Richmond no later than 60 days after the date of the particular fire call.

SECTION IV. LIABILITY FOR FIRE CALLS FROM FIRE DEPARTMENTS OTHER THAN THE DEPARTMENT WITH WHICH THE TOWN OF RICHMOND CONTRACTS. It is the policy of the Town of Richmond to contract with the City of New Richmond Fire and Rescue Department for provision of fire and emergency service to the Town. Any property owner within the Town requesting fire protection directly from a fire department other than that Department shall be responsible for the full costs billed to the Town resulting from the fire call. This section shall not apply to the costs of any other department responding at the request of an authorized department under a mutual aid agreement.

SECTION V. UNPAID ACCOUNTS. The failure to pay any bill for charges incurred pursuant to this Ordinance within 60 days of the date of the fire call will result in interest being charged at the rate of 1½ percent per month from the date of the bill. Any bill for a fire call to real estate, plus any accrued interest, that has been unpaid for 90 or more days as of November 1 of any year shall become a lien against the real estate and shall be

placed on the tax roll as a delinquent special charge under Sec. 66.0627 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

SECTION VI. SEVERABILITY. Should any section of provisions of this Ordinance be declared invalid for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION VII. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption and publication or posting as provided by law, pursuant to Sec. 60.80 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

SIGNED:

Gary Knutson, Town of Richmond Chair

Date

ATTEST:

Donna Preece, Town Clerk

Date

Voted for:

5

Voted against:

-

Abstained: Date of passage: 0

Date of posting:

12/19/201

Effective date: