

**THE  
BELLS  
MUNICIPAL  
CODE**

Prepared by the

**MUNICIPAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICE  
INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC SERVICE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE**

in cooperation with the

**TENNESSEE MUNICIPAL LEAGUE**

April 1998

Change 2, June 9, 2003

**CITY OF BELLS, TENNESSEE**

**MAYOR**

Harold C. Craig

**ALDERMEN**

David Eubanks  
Robert Earl Gaines, II  
Eric Jordan  
Sam T. Lewis  
Victoria Parks

**RECORDER**

Elizabeth Harber

## PREFACE

The Bells Municipal Code contains the codification and revision of the ordinances of the City of Bells, Tennessee. By referring to the historical citation appearing at the end of each section, the user can determine the origin of each particular section. The absence of a historical citation means that the section was added by the codifier. The word "modified" in the historical citation indicates significant modification of the original ordinance.

The code is arranged into titles, chapters, and sections. Related matter is kept together, so far as possible, within the same title. Each section number is complete within itself, containing the title number, the chapter number, and the section of the chapter of which it is a part. Specifically, the first digit, followed by a hyphen, identifies the title number. The second digit identifies the chapter number, and the last two digits identify the section number. For example, title 2, chapter 1, section 6, is designated as section 2-106.

By utilizing the table of contents and the analysis preceding each title and chapter of the code, together with the cross references and explanations included as footnotes, the user should locate all the provisions in the code relating to any question that might arise. However, the user should note that most of the administrative ordinances (e.g. Annual Budget, Zoning Map Amendments, Tax Assessments, etc...) do not appear in the code. Likewise, ordinances that have been passed since the last update of the code do not appear here. Therefore, the user should refer to the city's ordinance book or the city recorder for a comprehensive and up to date review of the city's ordinances.

Following this preface is an outline of the ordinance adoption procedures, if any, prescribed by the city's charter.

The code has been arranged and prepared in loose-leaf form to facilitate keeping it up to date. MTAS will provide updating service under the following conditions:

- (1) That all ordinances relating to subjects treated in the code or which should be added to the code are adopted as amending, adding, or deleting specific chapters or sections of the code (see section 8 of the adopting ordinance).
- (2) That one copy of every ordinance adopted by the city is kept in a separate ordinance book and forwarded to MTAS annually.
- (3) That the city agrees to reimburse MTAS for the actual costs of reproducing replacement pages for the code (no charge is made for the consultant's work, and reproduction costs are usually nominal).

When the foregoing conditions are met MTAS will reproduce replacement pages for the code to reflect the amendments and additions made by such

ordinances. This service will be performed at least annually and more often if justified by the volume of amendments. Replacement pages will be supplied with detailed instructions for utilizing them so as again to make the code complete and up to date.

The able assistance of Sandy Selvage, the MTAS Sr. Word Processing Specialist who did all the typing on this project and Tracy G. Gardner, Administrative Services Assistant is gratefully acknowledged.

Steve Lobertini  
Codification Specialist

**ORDINANCE ADOPTION PROCEDURES PRESCRIBED BY THE  
CITY CHARTER**

SECTION 12. Any action of the board having a regulatory or penal effect, awarding franchises, or required to be done by ordinance under this charter or the general laws of the state, shall be done only by ordinance. Other actions may be accomplished by resolutions or motions. Ordinances and resolutions shall be in written form before being introduced. The enacting clause of ordinances shall be "Be it ordained by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Bells:". Every ordinance must be approved on two (2) readings and there shall be no more than one reading on any one day. An ordinance may receive first reading upon its introduction. Ordinances shall take effect upon final reading, adoption and being signed by the Mayor unless a different effective date is designated in the ordinance.

All ordinances shall be signed by the Mayor before they shall become effective. The Mayor shall affix his approval or disapproval within five (5) days after adoption by the board. If the Mayor withholds his signature for five (5) days, exclusive of Sundays and holidays, the ordinance shall become effective for failure to veto. The Mayor shall state his reasons for vetoing an ordinance in writing and shall transmit his reasons and the ordinance back to the board for its action. The board may pass the ordinance over the veto by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the full membership of the board.

## TITLE 1

### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION<sup>1</sup>

#### CHAPTER

1. BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.
2. MAYOR.
3. RECORDER.

#### CHAPTER 1

### BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN<sup>2</sup>

#### SECTION

- 1-101. Time and place of regular meetings.
- 1-102. Order of business.
- 1-103. General rules of order.

**1-101. Time and place of regular meetings.** The board of mayor and aldermen shall hold semi-monthly meetings at 6:00 P.M. on the second and fourth Monday of each month at the city hall.

**1-102. Order of business.** At each meeting of the board of mayor and aldermen, the following regular order of business shall be observed unless dispensed with by a majority vote of the members present:

- (1) Call to order by the mayor.
- (2) Roll call by the recorder.
- (3) Reading of minutes of the previous meeting by the recorder and approval or correction.
- (4) Grievances from citizens.
- (5) Communications from the mayor.
- (6) Reports from committees, members of the board of mayor and aldermen, and other officers.

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<sup>1</sup>Charter references

See the charter index, the charter itself, and footnote references to the charter in the front of this code.

Municipal code references

Fire department: title 7.

Utilities: titles 18 and 19.

Wastewater treatment: title 18.

<sup>2</sup>Charter references

Compensation, meetings, quorum: § 7.

- (7) Old business.
- (8) New business.
- (9) Adjournment.

**1-103. General rules of order.** The rules of order and parliamentary procedure contained in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the transaction of business by and before the board of mayor and aldermen at its meetings in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with provisions of the charter or this code.

**CHAPTER 2****MAYOR<sup>1</sup>****SECTION**

1-201. Duties of mayor.

1-202. Executes city's contracts.

**1-201. Duties of mayor.** The mayor shall perform such duties as provided by the charter and any ordinances duly enacted by the board of mayor and aldermen consistent with the charter.

**1-202. Executes city's contracts.** The mayor shall execute all contracts as authorized by the board of mayor and aldermen.

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<sup>1</sup>Charter references

Duties: § 8.

Absence in office: § 9.



## CHAPTER 3

### RECORDER<sup>1</sup>

#### SECTION

1-301. To be bonded.

1-302. To keep minutes, etc.

1-303. To perform general administrative duties, etc.

**1-301. To be bonded.** The recorder shall be bonded in such sum as may be fixed by, and with such surety as may be acceptable to, the board of mayor and aldermen.

**1-302. To keep minutes, etc.** The recorder shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the board of mayor and aldermen and shall preserve the original copy of all ordinances in a separate ordinance book.

**1-303. To perform general administrative duties, etc.** The recorder shall perform all administrative duties for the board of mayor and aldermen and for the city which are not assigned by the charter, this code, or the board of mayor and aldermen to another corporate officer. The recorder shall also have custody of and be responsible for maintaining all corporate bonds, records, and papers in such fireproof vault or safe as the town shall provide.

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<sup>1</sup>Charter references

Appointment, duties and powers: § 15.

Ord. #9-94A, Oct. 1994, available in the office of the recorder, adopts by reference the requirements of Public Acts of 1994, chapter 648, providing for certification of the city recorder.

**TITLE 2**

**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS, ETC.**

**[RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE]**

**TITLE 3**

**MUNICIPAL COURT**

**CHAPTER**

1. CITY JUDGE.
2. COURT ADMINISTRATION.
3. WARRANTS, SUMMONSES AND SUBPOENAS.
4. BONDS AND APPEALS.

**CHAPTER 1**

**CITY JUDGE<sup>1</sup>**

**SECTION**

3-101. City judge.

**3-101. City judge.** The officer designated by the charter to handle judicial matters within the city shall preside over the city court and shall be known as the city judge.

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<sup>1</sup>Charter references  
Appointment, duties and powers: § 17.

## CHAPTER 2

### COURT ADMINISTRATION

#### SECTION

- 3-201. Maintenance of docket.
- 3-202. Imposition of fines, penalties, and costs.
- 3-203. Disposition and report of fines, penalties, and costs.
- 3-204. Disturbance of proceedings.
- 3-205. Trial and disposition of cases.
- 3-206. Penalty for certain violations.

**3-201. Maintenance of docket.** The city judge shall keep a complete docket of all matters coming before him in his judicial capacity. The docket shall include for each defendant such information as his name; warrant and/or summons numbers; alleged offense; disposition; fines, penalties, and costs imposed and whether collected; whether committed to workhouse; and all other information which may be relevant.

**3-202. Imposition of fines, penalties, and costs.** All fines, penalties, and costs shall be imposed and recorded by the city judge on the city court docket in open court.

In all cases heard or determined by him, the city judge shall tax in the bill of costs the same amounts and for the same items allowed in courts of general sessions<sup>1</sup> for similar work in state cases.

**3-203. Disposition and report of fines, penalties, and costs.** All funds coming into the hands of the city judge in the form of fines, penalties, costs, and forfeitures shall be recorded by him and paid over daily to the city. At the end of each month he shall submit to the board of mayor and aldermen a report accounting for the collection or noncollection of all fines, penalties, and costs imposed by his court during the current month and to date for the current fiscal year.

**3-204. Disturbance of proceedings.** It shall be unlawful for any person to create any disturbance of any trial before the city court by making loud or unusual noises, by using indecorous, profane, or blasphemous language, or by any distracting conduct whatsoever.

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<sup>1</sup>State law reference  
Tennessee Code Annotated, § 8-21-401.

**3-205. Trial and disposition of cases.** Every person charged with violating a municipal ordinance shall be entitled to an immediate trial and disposition of his case, provided the municipal court is in session or the municipal judge is reasonably available. However, the provisions of this section shall not apply when the alleged offender, by reason of drunkenness or other incapacity, is not in a proper condition or is not able to appear before the court.

**3-206. Penalty for certain violations.** The penalty for the following violations shall be as indicated:

Reckless driving . . . . .	\$50.00
Running red light . . . . .	\$10.00
Running stop sign . . . . .	\$10.00
Following too close . . . . .	\$5.00
Failure to yield right-of-way . . . . .	\$20.00
Violation of registration law . . . . .	\$25.00
Improper passing . . . . .	\$10.00
No drivers license . . . . .	\$20.00
Scratching off . . . . .	\$10.00
Violation of noise law . . . . .	\$10.00
Failure to maintain control . . . . .	\$15.00
Disorderly conduct . . . . .	\$15.00
Speeding	
First offense . . . . .	\$10.00
Second offense . . . . .	\$10.00 + \$1.00 for each mile above posted speed up to \$50.00 fine
Failure to appear in court - Warrant cost . . . . .	\$20.00
Court cost on the above . . . . .	\$26.50 + \$10.00 jail fee if locked up
Driving on revoked license . . . . .	\$50.00 plus cost

(Ord. of Dec. 17, 1984, modified)

## CHAPTER 3

### WARRANTS, SUMMONSES AND SUBPOENAS

#### SECTION

3-301. Issuance of arrest warrants.

3-302. Issuance of summonses.

3-303. Issuance of subpoenas.

**3-301. Issuance of arrest warrants.**<sup>1</sup> The city judge shall have the power to issue warrants for the arrest of persons charged with violating municipal ordinances.

**3-302. Issuance of summonses.** When a complaint of an alleged ordinance violation is made to the city judge, the judge may in his discretion, in lieu of issuing an arrest warrant, issue a summons ordering the alleged offender personally to appear before the city court at a time specified therein to answer to the charges against him. The summons shall contain a brief description of the offense charged but need not set out verbatim the provisions of the municipal code or ordinance alleged to have been violated. Upon failure of any person to appear before the city court as commanded in a summons lawfully served on him, the cause may be proceeded with ex parte, and the judgment of the court shall be valid and binding subject to the defendant's right of appeal.

**3-303. Issuance of subpoenas.** The city judge may subpoena as witnesses all persons whose testimony he believes will be relevant and material to matters coming before his court, and it shall be unlawful for any person lawfully served with such a subpoena to fail or neglect to comply therewith.

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<sup>1</sup>State law reference

For authority to issue warrants see Tennessee Code Annotated, title 40, chapter 6.

## CHAPTER 4

### BONDS AND APPEALS

#### SECTION

3-401. Appearance bonds authorized.

3-402. Appeals.

3-403. Bond amounts, conditions, and forms.

**3-401. Appearance bonds authorized.** When the municipal judge is not available or when an alleged offender requests and has reasonable grounds for a delay in the trial of his case, he may, in lieu of remaining in jail pending disposition of his case, be allowed to post an appearance bond with the municipal judge or, in the absence of the judge, with the ranking police officer on duty at the time, provided such alleged offender is not drunk or otherwise in need of protective custody.

**3-402. Appeals.** Any defendant who is dissatisfied with any judgment of the city court against him may, within ten (10) days<sup>1</sup> next after such judgment is rendered, appeal to the next term of the circuit court upon posting a proper appeal bond.

**3-403. Bond amounts, conditions, and forms.** An appearance bond in any case before the city court shall be in such amount as the city judge shall prescribe and shall be conditioned that the defendant shall appear for trial before the city court at the stated time and place. An appeal bond in any case shall be in such sum as the city judge shall prescribe, not to exceed the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00), and shall be conditioned that if the circuit court shall find against the appellant the fine or penalty and all costs of the trial and appeal shall be promptly paid by the defendant and/or his sureties. An appearance or appeal bond in any case may be made in the form of a cash deposit or by any corporate surety company authorized to do business in Tennessee or by two (2) private persons who individually own real property within the county. No other type bond shall be acceptable.

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<sup>1</sup>State law reference  
Tennessee Code Annotated, § 27-5-101.

**TITLE 4****MUNICIPAL PERSONNEL**<sup>1</sup>**CHAPTER**

1. SOCIAL SECURITY.
2. TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT REGULATIONS.

**CHAPTER 1****SOCIAL SECURITY****SECTION**

- 4-101. Policy and purpose as to coverage.
- 4-102. Necessary agreements to be executed.
- 4-103. Withholdings from salaries or wages.
- 4-104. Appropriations for employer's contributions.
- 4-105. Records and reports.
- 4-106. Exemptions from coverage.

**4-101. Policy and purpose as to coverage.** It is hereby declared to be the policy and purpose of this city to provide for all eligible employees and officials of the city, whether employed in connection with a governmental or proprietary function, the benefits of the system of federal old age and survivors insurance. In pursuance of said policy, and for that purpose, the city shall take such action as may be required by applicable state and federal laws or regulations. (Ord. of Dec. 2, 1957, as amended by Ord. of Feb. 2, 1981)

**4-102. Necessary agreements to be executed.** The mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute all the necessary agreements and amendments thereto with the state executive director of old age insurance, as agent or agency, to secure coverage of employees and officials as provided in the preceding section.<sup>2</sup> (Ord. of Dec. 2, 1957)

**4-103. Withholdings from salaries or wages.** Withholdings from the salaries or wages of employees and officials for the purpose provided in the first section of this chapter are hereby authorized to be made in the amounts and at such times as may be required by applicable state or federal laws or regulations,

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<sup>1</sup>For personnel rules and regulations, see the employee handbook adopted by resolution May 9, 1994, available in the office of the recorder.

<sup>2</sup>Amendments and agreements to coverage of employees and officials are on file in the office of the recorder.



and shall be paid over to the state or federal agency designated by said laws or regulations. (Ord. of Dec. 2, 1957)

**4-104. Appropriations for employer's contributions.** There shall be appropriated from available funds such amounts at such times as may be required by applicable state or federal laws or regulations for employer's contributions, and the same shall be paid over to the state or federal agency designated by said laws or regulations. (Ord. of Dec. 2, 1957)

**4-105. Records and reports.** The recorder shall keep such records and make such reports as may be required by applicable state and federal laws or regulations. (Ord. of Dec. 2, 1957)

**4-106. Exemptions from coverage.** There is hereby excluded from this chapter any authority to make any agreement with respect to emergency part-time and all fee based employees and elective legislative officials or any employee or official now covered or authorized to be covered by any other ordinance creating any retirement system for any employee or official of said town. (Ord. of Dec. 2, 1957, as amended by Ord. of Feb. 2, 1981)

## CHAPTER 2

### TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT REGULATIONS

#### SECTION

- 4-201. Reimbursement for travel.
- 4-202. Travel advance.
- 4-203. Miscellaneous travel expenses.

**4-201. Reimbursement for travel.** All officers and employees shall be reimbursed at a rate of thirty-two cents (\$.32) per mile for travel outside the town when conducting official business of the town except when a town-owned vehicle is used. Odometer readings, date, time departed, date and time returned, and total miles driven shall be submitted to the recorder for proper reimbursement. The mileage payment shall be charged to the appropriate line item in the town budget. All requests must be submitted on or before the last day of the month in which the expenses were incurred. Report shall be submitted on such forms as may be required by the town. When other forms of transportation are used, such as airplane, train, etc., a copy of the ticket will be submitted with the report. (Ord. of Dec. 3, 1979, modified)

**4-202. Travel advance.** When an official or employee of the town receives a travel advance, they shall submit the following information with their requests for reimbursement:

- (1) Copies of hotel or motel bill.
- (2) Registration receipts.
- (3) Charges for long distance calls, unless calls were official business.
- (4) Separate itemization of payment for meals of all officers and employees and for persons who were guests of the town. (Ord. of Dec. 3, 1957, modified)

**4-203. Miscellaneous travel expenses.** Miscellaneous charges for check-in and check-out will be reimbursed at a maximum rate of one dollar (\$1.00) for each check-in and check-out. Gratuities may be paid by the town official or employee at his discretion but shall be reimbursed at maximum rate of fifteen percent (15%) of the total bill. (Ord. of Dec. 3, 1979)

**TITLE 5****MUNICIPAL FINANCE AND TAXATION<sup>1</sup>****CHAPTER**

1. REAL PROPERTY TAXES.
2. PRIVILEGE TAXES.
3. WHOLESALE BEER TAX.

**CHAPTER 1****REAL PROPERTY TAXES****SECTION**

- 5-101. When due and payable.  
5-102. When delinquent; penalty and interest.

**5-101. When due and payable.**<sup>2</sup> Taxes levied by the city against real property shall become due and payable annually on the first Monday of October of the year for which levied.

**5-102. When delinquent; penalty and interest.**<sup>3</sup> All real property taxes shall become delinquent on and after the first day of March next after they become due and payable and shall thereupon be subject to such penalty and

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<sup>1</sup>Charter references  
Taxes: §§ 32-38.

<sup>2</sup>State law references  
Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 67-1-701, 67-1-702 and 67-1-801, read together, permit a municipality to collect its own property taxes if its charter authorizes it to do so, or to turn over the collection of its property taxes to the county trustee. Apparently, under those same provisions, if a municipality collects its own property taxes, tax due and delinquency dates are as prescribed by the charter; if the county trustee collects them, the tax due date is the first Monday in October, and the delinquency date is the following March 1.

<sup>3</sup>State law reference  
Tennessee Code Annotated, § 67-5-2010(b) provides that if the county trustee collects the municipality's property taxes, a penalty of 1/2 of 1% and interest of 1% shall be added on the first day of March following the tax due date, and on the first day of each succeeding month.

interest as is authorized and prescribed by the state law for delinquent county real property taxes.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Charter and state law references

A municipality has the option of collecting delinquent property taxes any one of three ways:

- (1) Under the provisions of its charter for the collection of delinquent property taxes.
- (2) Under Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 6-55-201--6-55-206.
- (3) By the county trustee under Tennessee Code Annotated, § 67-5-2005.

## CHAPTER 2

### PRIVILEGE TAXES

#### SECTION

5-201. Tax levied.

5-202. License required.

**5-201. Tax levied.** Except as otherwise specifically provided in this code, there is hereby levied on all vocations, occupations, and businesses declared by the general laws of the state to be privileges taxable by municipalities, an annual privilege tax in the maximum amount allowed by state laws. The taxes provided for in the state's "Business Tax Act" (Tennessee Code Annotated, § 67-4-701, et seq.) are hereby expressly enacted, ordained, and levied on the businesses, business activities, vocations, and occupations carried on within the city at the rates and in the manner prescribed by the act. (Ord. of Dec. 4, 1978)

**5-202. License required.** No person shall exercise any such privilege within the city without a currently effective privilege license, which shall be issued by the recorder to each applicant therefor upon the applicant's payment of the appropriate privilege tax. Violations of this section shall be punished under the general penalty provisions of this code of ordinances. (Ord. of Dec. 4, 1978)

**CHAPTER 3****WHOLESALE BEER TAX****SECTION**

5-301. To be collected.

**5-301. To be collected.** The city recorder is hereby directed to take appropriate action to assure payment to the city of the wholesale beer tax levied by the "Wholesale Beer Tax Act," as set out in Tennessee Code Annotated, title 57, chapter 6.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>State law reference

Tennessee Code Annotated, title 57, chapter 6 provides for a tax of 17% on the sale of beer at wholesale. Every wholesaler is required to remit to each municipality the amount of the net tax on beer wholesale sales to retailers and other persons within the corporate limits of the municipality.

Municipal code references

Alcohol and beer regulations: title 8.

Beer privilege tax: § 8-208.

**TITLE 6****LAW ENFORCEMENT<sup>1</sup>****CHAPTER**

1. POLICE DEPARTMENT.
2. ARREST PROCEDURES.

**CHAPTER 1****POLICE DEPARTMENT****SECTION**

- 6-101. Policemen subject to chief's orders.
- 6-102. Policemen to preserve law and order, etc.
- 6-103. Policemen to preserve law and order, etc.
- 6-104. Policemen to wear uniforms and be armed.
- 6-105. Police department records.

**6-101. Policemen subject to chief's orders.** All policemen shall obey and comply with such orders and administrative rules and regulations as the police chief may officially issue.

**6-102. Policemen to preserve law and order, etc.** Policemen shall preserve law and order within the city. They shall patrol the city and shall assist the city court during the trial of cases. Policemen shall also promptly serve any legal process issued by the city court.

**6-103. Policemen to preserve law and order, etc.** Policemen shall preserve law and order within the town. They shall patrol the town and shall assist the municipal court during the trial of cases. Policemen shall also promptly serve any legal process issued by the municipal court.

**6-104. Policemen to wear uniforms and be armed.** All policemen shall wear such uniform and badge as the board of aldermen shall authorize and shall carry a service pistol and billy club at all times while on duty unless otherwise expressly directed by the chief for a special assignment.

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code reference

Issuance of citations in lieu of arrest in traffic cases: title 15, chapter 7.

**6-105. Police department records.** The police department shall keep a comprehensive and detailed daily record, in permanent form, showing at a minimum:

- (1) All known or reported offenses and/or crimes committed within the corporate limits.
- (2) All arrests made by policemen.
- (3) All police investigations made, funerals, convoys, fire calls answered, and other miscellaneous activities of the police department.
- (4) Any other records required to be kept by the board of mayor and aldermen or by law.

The police chief shall be responsible for insuring that the police department complies with the section.



## CHAPTER 2

### ARREST PROCEDURES

#### SECTION

6-201. When policemen to make arrests.

6-202. Disposition of persons arrested.

6-203. Policemen may require assistance.

**6-201. When policemen to make arrests.**<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise authorized or directed in this code or other applicable law, an arrest of the person shall be made by a policeman in the following cases:

(1) Whenever he is in possession of a warrant for the arrest of the person.

(2) Whenever an offense is committed or a breach of the peace is threatened in the officer's presence by the person.

(3) Whenever a felony has in fact been committed and the officer has probable cause to believe the person has committed it.

**6-202. Disposition of persons arrested.** (1) For code or ordinance violations. Unless otherwise provided by law, a person arrested for a violation of this code or other city ordinance, shall be brought before the city court. However, if the city court is not in session, the arrested person shall be allowed to post bond with the city court clerk, or, if the city court clerk is not available, with the ranking police officer on duty. If the arrested person is under the influence of alcohol or drugs when arrested, even if he is arrested for an offense unrelated to the consumption of alcohol or drugs, the person shall be confined until he does not pose a danger to himself or to any other person.

(2) Felonies or misdemeanors. A person arrested for a felony or a misdemeanor shall be disposed of in accordance with applicable federal and state law and the rules of the court which has jurisdiction over the offender.

**6-203. Policemen may require assistance.** It shall be unlawful for any person willfully to refuse to aid a policeman in maintaining law and order or in making a lawful arrest when such person's assistance is requested by the policeman and is reasonably necessary.

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code reference

Issuance of citation in lieu of arrest in traffic cases: title 15, chapter 7.

## TITLE 7

### FIRE PROTECTION AND FIREWORKS

#### CHAPTER

1. VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.
2. FIREWORKS.

#### CHAPTER 1

### VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT<sup>1</sup>

#### SECTION

- 7-101. Establishment, equipment, and membership.
- 7-102. Objectives.
- 7-103. Organization, rules, and regulations.
- 7-104. Records and reports.
- 7-105. Tenure and compensation of members.
- 7-106. Chief responsible for training and maintenance.
- 7-107. Chief to be assistant to state officer.

**7-101. Establishment, equipment, and membership.** There is hereby established a volunteer fire department to be supported and equipped from appropriations of the board of mayor and aldermen. Any funds raised by the volunteer fire department as a whole, or by any individual or group of volunteer firemen in the name of the volunteer fire department, and any gifts to the volunteer fire department shall be turned over to and become the property of, the city and the city shall use such funds in the equipping of the volunteer fire department. All other apparatus, equipment, and supplies of the volunteer fire department shall be purchased by or through the city and shall be and remain the property of the city. The volunteer fire department shall be composed of a chief appointed by the board of mayor and aldermen, and such number of subordinate officers and firemen as the fire chief shall appoint.

**7-102. Objectives.** The volunteer fire department shall have as its objectives:

- (1) To prevent uncontrolled fires from starting.
- (2) To prevent the loss of life and property because of fires.
- (3) To confine fires to their places of origin.
- (4) To extinguish uncontrolled fires.
- (5) To prevent loss of life from asphyxiation or drowning.

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code reference

Special privileges with respect to traffic: title 15, chapter 2.

(6) To perform such rescue work as its equipment and/or the training of its personnel makes practicable.

**7-103. Organization, rules, and regulations.** The chief of the volunteer fire department shall set up the organization of the department, make definite assignments to individuals, and formulate and enforce such rules and regulations as shall be necessary for the orderly and efficient operation of the volunteer fire department.

**7-104. Records and reports.** The chief of the volunteer fire department shall keep adequate records of all fires, inspections, apparatus, equipment, personnel, and work of the department. He shall submit a written report on those matters to the mayor once each month, and at the end of the year a detailed annual report shall be made.

**7-105. Tenure and compensation of members.** The fire chief shall have the authority to suspend or discharge any other member of the volunteer fire department when he deems such action to be necessary for the good of the department. The fire chief may be suspended for up to thirty (30) days by the mayor, but may be dismissed only by the board of mayor and aldermen.

All personnel of the volunteer fire department shall receive such compensation for their services as the board of mayor and aldermen may from time to time prescribe.

**7-106. Chief responsible for training and maintenance.** The chief of the volunteer fire department shall be fully responsible for the training of the firemen and for maintenance of all property and equipment of the fire department. The minimum training shall consist of having the personnel take the fire apparatus out for practice operations not less than once a month.

**7-107. Chief to be assistant to state officer.** Pursuant to requirements of Tennessee Code Annotated, § 68-102-108, the fire chief is designated as an assistant to the state commissioner of insurance and is subject to all the duties and obligations imposed by Tennessee Code Annotated, title 68, chapter 102, and shall be subject to the directions of the commissioner in the execution of the provisions thereof.

**CHAPTER 2****FIREWORKS****SECTION**

7-201. Sale or storage of fireworks unlawful.

7-202. Shooting of fireworks unlawful.

7-203. Penalty.

**7-201. Sale or storage of fireworks unlawful.** It shall be unlawful to sell or to store for sale, or to offer for sale fireworks of any sort or kind within the corporate limits of the town. (Ord. of \_\_\_\_\_)

**7-202. Shooting of fireworks unlawful.** It shall be unlawful to shoot or attempt to shoot fireworks of any sort or kind upon any streets, sidewalks, public parking areas, or in any part or portion of the business district, on or about the premises of any public building or industrial plant within the corporate limits of the town. (Ord. of Nov. 3, 1959)

**7-203. Penalty.** Any person violating any provision of this chapter shall be punished under the general penalty provisions of this code. (Ord. of Nov. 2, 1959)

**TITLE 8****ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**<sup>1</sup>**CHAPTER**

1. INTOXICATING LIQUORS.
2. BEER.
3. MISCELLANEOUS.

**CHAPTER 1****INTOXICATING LIQUORS****SECTION**

8-101. Prohibited generally.

**8-101. Prohibited generally.** Except as authorized by applicable laws<sup>2</sup> and/or ordinances, it shall be unlawful for any person to manufacture, receive, possess, store, transport, sell, furnish, or solicit orders for, any intoxicating liquor within this city. "Intoxicating liquor" shall be defined to include whiskey, wine, "home brew," "moonshine," and all other intoxicating, spirituous, vinous, or malt liquors and beers which contain more than five percent (5%) of alcohol by weight.

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code reference

Minors in beer places, etc.: title 11, chapter 1.

State law reference

Tennessee Code Annotated, title 57.

<sup>2</sup>State law reference

Tennessee Code Annotated, title 39, chapter 17.

## CHAPTER 2

### BEER<sup>1</sup>

#### SECTION

- 8-201. Beer board established.
- 8-202. Meetings of the beer board.
- 8-203. Record of beer board proceedings to be kept.
- 8-204. Requirements for beer board quorum and action.
- 8-205. On-premises consumption.
- 8-206. Off-premises consumption.
- 8-207. Gross receipts from beer sales limited.
- 8-208. Powers and duties of the beer board.
- 8-209. Permits not transferable.
- 8-210. "Beer" defined.
- 8-211. Permit required for engaging in beer business.
- 8-212. Privilege tax.
- 8-213. Prohibited conduct or activities by beer permit holders.
- 8-214. Civil penalty in lieu of suspension.
- 8-215. Violations.

**8-201. Beer board established.** There is hereby established a beer board to be composed of the board of mayor and aldermen. The mayor shall be the chairman of the beer board. (Ord. of Dec. 16, 1991)

**8-202. Meetings of the beer board.** All meetings of the beer board shall be open to the public. The board shall hold regular meetings in the city hall at such times as it shall prescribe. When there is business to come before the beer board, a special meeting may be called by the chairman provided he gives a reasonable notice thereof to each member and to the public. The board may adjourn a meeting at any time to another time and place. (Ord. of Dec. 16, 1991)

**8-203. Record of beer board proceedings to be kept.** The recorder shall make a record of the proceedings of all meetings of the beer board. The record shall be a public record and shall contain at least the following: The date

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code references

Minors in beer places, etc.: title 11, chapter 1.

Tax provisions: title 5.

State law reference

For a leading case on a municipality's authority to regulate beer, see Watkins v. Naifeh, 635 S.W.2d 104 (Tenn. 1982).

of each meeting; the names of the board members present and absent; the names of the members introducing and seconding motions and resolutions, etc., before the board; a copy of each such motion or resolution presented; the vote of each member thereon. (Ord. of Dec. 16, 1991)

**8-204. Requirements for beer board quorum and action.** The attendance of at least a majority of the members of the beer board shall be required to constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting business. Matters before the board shall be decided by a majority of the members present if a quorum is constituted. (Ord. of Dec. 16, 1991)

**8-205. On-premises consumption.** From the effective date of this section, no further beer licenses shall be issued within the corporate limits of the City of Bells for the sale of beer for on-premises consumption. (Ord. of Dec. 16, 1991, as amended by Ord. of April 18, 1994)

**8-206. Off-premises consumption.** No licenses shall be issued for packaged sales of beer for off-premises consumption EXCEPT AS HEREINAFTER SET OUT:

(1) One who purchases, or is purchasing, a business as a going concern from a present holder of beer license in good standing may make application to the beer board for a new license to sell beer for off-premises consumption at said business at the same location, and, in the event the beer board finds that the applicant meets the qualifications for such a license, and are satisfied that the safety, health and morals of the citizens of the city will not be adversely affected, a new license may be issued to such an applicant, subject to the terms and conditions of the beer ordinance, this amendment and the state laws relating to the possession, sale, distribution and manufacture of beer. In the event any license is issued to the new owner-applicant, the license of the seller is thereby automatically revoked.

(2) After any legitimate retail business has been operating in the City of Bells for a period of at least six (6) months, in a respectable manner, the owner thereof may make application for a license to sell beer for off-premises consumption. The applicant must be a reputable adult citizen of the United States of America, must meet all requirements of the beer ordinance, this amendment thereto, and of the state law. No license will be granted for a location where such sale would cause congestion of traffic or interference with churches, schools, or other places of public gatherings, or otherwise interfere with public health, safety and morals. In no event will a license be granted to a business located within seven hundred fifty (750) feet of any school, church, or industrial plant. Industrial plant shall be defined in this section as a private manufacturer or producer of goods or services which employs over two hundred (200) employees on a full-time basis.

Such an applicant must be at least 21 years of age, and shall not employ any person in the storage, sale, distribution or manufacture beer who is not at least 21 years of age and a citizen of the United States of America. The applicant shall be disqualified from receiving a beer license if he or she has been convicted of any violations of the laws concerning possession, sale, manufacture or transportation of beer or other intoxicating liquors, has been convicted of an assault and battery, or any crime involving violence or moral turpitude within the past ten (10) years, and applicant shall commit himself to the beer board that he will not employ any person who has been so convicted. (Ord. of Dec. 16, 1991, as amended by Ord. of April 18, 1994)

**8-207. Gross receipts from beer sales limited.** The sale, distribution for sale of, or the purchase of, beer shall be lawful only at a duly licensed place of business at least 75% of the gross receipts of which are from sources other than the sale of beer. (Ord. of Dec. 16, 1991)

**8-208. Powers and duties of the beer board.** The beer board shall have the power and duty to revoke or suspend any beer permit when the holder thereof has been guilty of making a false statement or misrepresentation in his application or guilty of violating any of the provisions of this chapter or any law of the State of Tennessee regulating, the storage, sale or manufacture of beer, is convicted for possession, sale, manufacture or transportation of intoxicating liquors or controlled substance as defined in Tennessee Code Annotated or any crime involving moral turpitude or has had another beer permit revoked. However, no beer permit shall be revoked until a public hearing is held by the board after notice of at least 72 hours is given to the permit holder, or, if such holder is not to be found, then such notice to be served upon his agent, representative or person found in charge of his business giving notice of the date, time and place of said hearing. Revocation proceedings may be initiated by the police chief or any member of the mayor and board of aldermen. (Ord. of Dec. 16, 1991)

**8-209. Permits not transferable.** Permits are not transferable, either as to location or to successor by purchase or otherwise, of the business for which the permit was issued, and in either case a new permit is required in the manner provided herein. (Ord. of Dec. 16, 1991)

**8-210. "Beer" defined.** The term "beer" as used in this chapter shall mean and include all beers, ales, and other malt liquors having an alcoholic content of not more than five percent (5%) by weight. (Ord. of Dec. 16, 1991)

**8-211. Permit required for engaging in beer business.** It shall be unlawful for any person to sell, store for sale, distribute for sale, or manufacture beer without first making application to and obtaining a permit from the beer



board. The application shall be made on such form as the board shall prescribe and/or furnish, and pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, § 57-5-101(b), and shall be accompanied by a non-refundable application fee of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00). Said fee shall be in the form of a cashier's check payable to the City of Bells. Each applicant must be a person of good moral character and he must certify that he has read and is familiar with the provisions of this chapter.

**8-212. Privilege tax.** There is hereby imposed on the business of selling, distributing, storing or manufacturing beer a privilege tax of one hundred dollars (\$100). Any person, firm, corporation, joint stock company, syndicate or association engaged in the sale, distribution, storage or manufacture of beer shall remit the tax on January 1, to the City of Bells, Tennessee. At the time a new permit is issued to any business subject to this tax, the permit holder shall be required to pay the privilege tax on a prorated basis for each month or portion thereof remaining until the next tax payment date. (Ord. of Jan. 10, 1994)

**8-213. Prohibited conduct or activities by beer permit holders.** It shall be unlawful for any beer permit holder to:

(1) Employ any person convicted for the possession, sale, manufacture, or transportation of intoxicating liquor, or any crime involving moral turpitude within the past ten (10) years.

(2) Employ any minor under 18 years of age in the sale, storage, distribution or manufacture of beer.

(3) Make or allow any sale of beer between the hours of 11:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M. during any night of the week; at any time on Sunday.

(4) Make or allow any sale of beer to a person under twenty-one (21) years of age.

(5) Allow any person under twenty-one (21) years of age to loiter in or about his place of business.

(6) Make or allow any sale of beer to any intoxicated person or to any feeble-minded, insane, or otherwise mentally incapacitated person.

(7) Allow drunk persons to loiter about his premises.

(8) Allow another person to operate on the permit holders license. The permit holder must physically and materially participate in the operation of the business;

(9) When any person who holds a license fails to operate his or her business for a period of thirty (30) days, such license shall automatically become null and void, unless the failure to operate the business was caused by circumstances beyond the control of such license holder. (Ord. of Dec. 16, 1991)

**8-214. Civil penalty in lieu of suspension.** At the time the beer board imposes a revocation or suspension under section XII above, the beer board may

offer a permit or license holder the alternative of paying a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,500.00 for each offense of making or permitting to be made any sales to minors or a civil penalty not to exceed \$1,000.00 for any other offense. If a civil penalty is offered as an alternative to revocation or suspension shall be imposed. If the civil penalty is paid within that time, the revocation or suspension shall be deemed withdrawn. The holder's payment of a civil penalty shall not affect the holder's ability to seek review of the civil penalty pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, § 57-5-108(2)(d) which, by reference, is made a part hereof as fully as if copied here verbatim. (As replaced by Ord. #10-96A, Nov. 1996)

**8-215. Violations.** Except as provided in § 8-214, any violation of this chapter shall constitute a civil offense and shall, upon conviction, be punishable by a penalty under the general penalty clause of this code. Each day a violation shall be allowed to continue shall constitute a separate offense.

**CHAPTER 3****MISCELLANEOUS****SECTION**

8-301. Brown bagging prohibited.

**8-301. Brown bagging prohibited.** (1) No owner, operator or employee of any restaurant, club, or any other business of any kind or description, shall permit or allow any person to open, or to consume inside or on the premises, a bottle, can, flask or container of any kind or description, of beer or other alcoholic beverages.

(2) For the purposes of interpreting this section, the term "alcoholic beverages" shall mean and include alcohol, spirits, liquor, wine and every liquid containing alcohol, other than patent medicine, or beer where the latter contains an alcoholic content of five percent (5%) by weight or less. The term shall also include any liquid product containing distilled alcohol capable of being consumed by a human being, manufactured or made with distilled alcohol irrespective of alcoholic content, including, but not limited to, "home brew" and "moonshine".

For the same purposes, the term "beer" shall mean all beers, ales and other malt liquors having an alcoholic content of not more than five percent (5%) by weight. (Ord. of May 26, 1992)

**TITLE 9****BUSINESS, PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS, ETC.****CHAPTER**

1. PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS, ETC.
2. CABLE TELEVISION.

**CHAPTER 1****PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS, ETC.<sup>1</sup>****SECTION**

- 9-101. Definitions.
- 9-102. Exemptions.
- 9-103. Permit required.
- 9-104. Permit procedure.
- 9-105. Restrictions on peddlers, street barkers and solicitors.
- 9-106. Restrictions on transient vendors.
- 9-107. Display of permit.
- 9-108. Suspension or revocation of permit.
- 9-109. Expiration and renewal of permit.
- 9-110. Violation and penalty.

**9-101. Definitions.** Unless otherwise expressly stated, whenever used in this chapter, the following words shall have the meaning given to them in this section:

(1) "Peddler" means any person, firm or corporation, either a resident or a nonresident of the city, who has no permanent regular place of business and who goes from dwelling to dwelling, business to business, place to place, or from street to street, carrying or transporting goods, wares or merchandise and offering or exposing the same for sale.

(2) "Solicitor" means any person, firm or corporation who goes from dwelling to dwelling, business to business, place to place, or from street to street, taking or attempting to take orders for any goods, wares or merchandise, or personal property of any nature whatever for future delivery, except that the term shall not include solicitors for charitable and religious purposes and solicitors for subscriptions as those terms are defined below.

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code references

Privilege taxes: title 5.

Trespass by peddlers, etc.: § 11-501.

(3) "Solicitor for charitable or religious purposes" means any person, firm, corporation or organization who or which solicits contributions from the public, either on the streets of the city or from door to door, business to business, place to place, or from street to street, for any charitable or religious organization, and who does not sell or offer to sell any single item at a cost to the purchaser in excess of ten dollars (\$10.00). No organization shall qualify as a "charitable" or "religious" organization unless the organization meets one of the following conditions:

(a) Has a current exemption certificate from the Internal Revenue Service issued under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code of 1954, as amended.

(b) Is a member of United Way, Community Chest or similar "umbrella" organizations for charitable or religious organizations.

(c) Has been in continued existence as a charitable or religious organization in Crockett County for a period of two (2) years prior to the date of its application for registration under this chapter.

(4) "Solicitor for subscriptions" means any person who solicits subscriptions from the public, either on the streets of the city, or from door to door, business to business, place to place, or from street to street, and who offers for sale subscriptions to magazines or other materials protected by provisions of the Constitution of the United States.

(5) "Transient vendor<sup>1</sup>" means any person who brings into temporary premises and exhibits stocks of merchandise to the public for the purpose of selling or offering to sell the merchandise to the public. Transient vendor does not include any person selling goods by sample, brochure, or sales catalog for future delivery; or to sales resulting from the prior invitation to the seller by the owner or occupant of a residence. For purposes of this definition, "merchandise" means any consumer item that is or is represented to be new or not previously owned by a consumer, and "temporary premises" means any public or quasi-public place including a hotel, rooming house, storeroom, building or part

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<sup>1</sup>State law references

Tennessee Code Annotated, § 62-30-101 et seq. contains permit requirements for "transitory vendors."

The definition of "transient vendors" is taken from Tennessee Code Annotated, § 62-30-101(3). Note also that Tennessee Code Annotated, § 67-4-709(a) prescribes that transient vendors shall pay a tax of \$50.00 for each 14 day period in each county and/or municipality in which such vendors sell or offer to sell merchandise for which they are issued a business license, but that they are not liable for the gross receipts portion of the tax provided for in Tennessee Code Annotated, § 67-4-709(b).

of a building, tent, vacant lot, railroad car, or motor vehicle which is temporarily occupied for the purpose of exhibiting stocks of merchandise to the public. Premises are not temporary if the same person has conducted business at those premises for more than six (6) consecutive months or has occupied the premises as his or her permanent residence for more than six (6) consecutive months.

(6) "Street barker" means any peddler who does business during recognized festival or parade days in the city and who limits his business to selling or offering to sell novelty items and similar goods in the area of the festival or parade.

**9-102. Exemptions.** The terms of this chapter shall neither apply to persons selling at wholesale to dealers, nor to newsboys, nor to bona fide merchants who merely deliver goods in the regular course of business, nor to persons selling agricultural products, who, in fact, themselves produced the products being sold.

**9-103. Permit required.** No person, firm or corporation shall operate a business as a peddler, transient vendor, solicitor or street barker, and no solicitor for charitable or religious purposes or solicitor for subscriptions shall solicit within the city unless the same has obtained a permit from the city in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. (Ord. of May 1, 1978, modified)

**9-104. Permit procedure.** (1) Application form. A sworn application containing the following information shall be completed and filed with the city recorder by each applicant for a permit as a peddler, transient vendor, solicitor, or street barker and by each applicant for a permit as a solicitor for charitable or religious purposes or as a solicitor for subscriptions:

(a) The complete name and permanent address of the business or organization the applicant represents.

(b) A brief description of the type of business and the goods to be sold.

(c) The dates for which the applicant intends to do business or make solicitations.

(d) The names and permanent addresses of each person who will make sales or solicitations within the city.

(e) The make, model, complete description, and license tag number and state of issue, of each vehicle to be used to make sales or solicitations, whether or not such vehicle is owned individually by the person making sales or solicitations, by the business or organization itself, or rented or borrowed from another business or person.

(f) Tennessee State sales tax number, if applicable.

(2) Permit fee. Each applicant for a permit as a peddler, transient vendor, solicitor or street barker shall submit with his application a nonrefundable fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00). There shall be no fee for an

application for a permit as a solicitor for charitable purposes or as a solicitor for subscriptions.

(3) Permit issued. Upon the completion of the application form and the payment of the permit fee, where required, the recorder shall issue a permit and provide a copy of the same to the applicant.

(4) Submission of application form to chief of police. Immediately after the applicant obtains a permit from the city recorder, the city recorder shall submit to the chief of police a copy of the application form and the permit. (Ord. of May, 1, 1976, modified)

**9-105. Restrictions on peddlers, street barkers and solicitors.** No peddler, street barker, solicitor, solicitor for charitable purposes, or solicitor for subscriptions shall:

(1) Be permitted to set up and operate a booth or stand on any street or sidewalk, or in any other public area within the city.

(2) Stand or sit in or near the entrance to any dwelling or place of business, or in any other place which may disrupt or impede pedestrian or vehicular traffic.

(3) Offer to sell goods or services or solicit in vehicular traffic lanes, or operate a "road block" of any kind.

(4) Call attention to his business or merchandise or to his solicitation efforts by crying out, by blowing a horn, by ringing a bell, or creating other noise, except that the street barker shall be allowed to cry out to call attention to his business or merchandise during recognized parade or festival days of the city.

(5) Enter in or upon any premises or attempt to enter in or upon any premises wherein a sign or placard bearing the notice "Peddlers or Solicitors Prohibited," or similar language carrying the same meaning, is located.

**9-106. Restrictions on transient vendors.** A transient vendor shall not advertise, represent, or hold forth a sale of goods, wares or merchandise as an insurance, bankrupt, insolvent, assignee, trustee, estate, executor, administrator, receiver's manufacturer's wholesale, cancelled order, or misfit sale, or closing-out sale, or a sale of any goods damaged by smoke, fire, water or otherwise, unless such advertisement, representation or holding forth is actually of the character it is advertised, represented or held forth.

**9-107. Display of permit.** Each peddler, street barker, solicitor, solicitor for charitable purposes or solicitor for subscriptions is required to have in his possession a valid permit while making sales or solicitations, and shall be required to display the same to any police officer upon demand.

**9-108. Suspension or revocation of permit.** (1) Suspension by the recorder. The permit issued to any person or organization under this chapter may be suspended by the city recorder for any of the following causes:

(a) Any false statement, material omission, or untrue or misleading information which is contained in or left out of the application; or

(b) Any violation of this chapter.

(2) Suspension or revocation by the board of mayor and aldermen. The permit issued to any person or organization under this chapter may be suspended or revoked by the board of mayor and aldermen, after notice and hearing, for the same causes set out in paragraph (1) above. Notice of the hearing for suspension or revocation of a permit shall be given by the city recorder in writing, setting forth specifically the grounds of complaint and the time and place of the hearing. Such notice shall be mailed to the permit holder at his last known address at least five (5) days prior to the date set for hearing, or it shall be delivered by a police officer in the same manner as a summons at least three (3) days prior to the date set for hearing.

**9-109. Expiration and renewal of permit.** The permit of peddlers, solicitors and transient vendors shall expire on the same date that the permit holder's privilege license expires. The registration of any peddler, solicitor, or transient vendor who for any reason is not subject to the privilege tax shall be issued for six (6) months. The permit of street barkers shall be for a period corresponding to the dates of the recognized parade or festival days of the city. The permit of solicitors for religious or charitable purposes and solicitors for subscriptions shall expire on the date provided in the permit, not to exceed thirty (30) days.

**9-110. Violation and penalty.** In addition to any other action the city may take against a permit holder in violation of this chapter, such violation shall be punishable by a penalty of up to five hundred dollars (\$500) for each offense. Each day a violation occurs shall constitute a separate offense.



**CHAPTER 2****CABLE TELEVISION****SECTION**

9-201. To be furnished under franchise.

**9-201. To be furnished under franchise.** Cable television shall be furnished to the City of Bells and its inhabitants under franchise granted to Time Warner, Inc. by the board of mayor and aldermen of the City of Bells, Tennessee. The rights, powers, duties and obligations of the City of Bells and its inhabitants are clearly stated in the franchise agreement executed by, and which shall be binding upon the parties concerned.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>For complete details relating to the cable television franchise agreement see ordinance no. 5-95A dated June 12, 1995 in the office of the city recorder.

**TITLE 10****ANIMAL CONTROL****CHAPTER****1. DOGS AND CATS.****CHAPTER 1****DOGS AND CATS****SECTION**

- 10-101. Rabies vaccination and registration required.
- 10-102. Dogs to wear tags.
- 10-103. Running at large prohibited.
- 10-104. Vicious dogs to be securely restrained.
- 10-105. Noisy dogs prohibited.
- 10-106. Confinement of dogs suspected of being rabid.
- 10-107. Seizure and disposition of dogs.
- 10-108. Destruction of vicious or infected dogs running at large.
- 10-109. Violation and penalty.

**10-101. Rabies vaccination and registration required.** It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, or harbor any dog or cat without having the same duly vaccinated against rabies and registered in accordance with the provisions of the "Tennessee Anti-Rabies Law" (Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 68-8-101 through 68-8-114) or other applicable law. (Ord. of May 7, 1960)

**10-102. Dogs to wear tags.** It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, or harbor any dog which does not wear a tag evidencing the vaccination and registration required by the preceding section.

**10-103. Running at large prohibited.**<sup>1</sup> It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly to permit any dog owned by him or under his control, or that may be habitually found on premises occupied by him to run at large within the corporate limits.

Any person knowingly permitting a dog to run at large, including the owner of the dog, may be prosecuted under this section even if the dog is picked up and disposed of under the provisions of this chapter, whether or not the

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<sup>1</sup>State law reference

Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 68-8-108 and 68-8-109.

disposition includes returning the animal to its owner. (Ord. of May 7, 1960, modified)

**10-104. Vicious dogs to be securely restrained.** It shall be unlawful for any person to own or keep any dog known to be vicious or dangerous unless such dog is so confined and/or otherwise securely restrained as to provide reasonably for the protection of other animals and persons.

**10-105. Noisy dogs prohibited.** No person shall own, keep, or harbor any dog which, by loud and frequent barking, whining, or howling, disturbs the peace and quiet of any neighborhood.

**10-106. Confinement of dogs suspected of being rabid.** If any dog has bitten any person or is suspected of having bitten any person or is for any reason suspected of being infected with rabies, the chief of police or any other properly designated officer or official may cause such dog to be confined or isolated for such time as he deems reasonably necessary to determine if such dog is rabid.

**10-107. Seizure and disposition of dogs.** Any dog found running at large may be seized by any police officer or other properly designated officer or official and placed in a pound provided or designated by the board of mayor and aldermen. If the dog is wearing a tag the owner shall be notified in person, by telephone, or by a postcard addressed to his last-known mailing address to appear within ten (10) days and redeem his dog by paying a reasonable pound fee, in accordance with a schedule approved by the board of mayor and aldermen, or the dog will be sold or humanely destroyed. If the dog is not wearing a tag it shall be sold or humanely destroyed unless legally claimed by the owner within five (5) days. No dog shall be released in any event from the pound unless or until such dog has been vaccinated and has a tag evidencing such vaccination placed on its collar. (Ord. of May 7, 1960)

**10-108. Destruction of vicious or infected dogs running at large.** When, because of its viciousness or apparent infection with rabies, a dog found running at large cannot be safely impounded it may be summarily destroyed by any policeman or other properly designated officer.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>State law reference

For a Tennessee Supreme Court case upholding the summary destruction of dogs pursuant to appropriate legislation, see Darnell v. Shapard, 156 Tenn. 544, 3 S.W.2d 661 (1928).

**10-109. Violation and penalty.** Any violation of this chapter shall constitute a civil offense and shall, upon conviction, be punishable under the general penalty provision of this code. Each day a violation shall be allowed to continue shall constitute a separate offense.

## TITLE 11

### MUNICIPAL OFFENSES<sup>1</sup>

#### CHAPTER

1. ALCOHOL.
2. FORTUNE TELLING, ETC.
3. OFFENSES AGAINST THE PEACE AND QUIET.
4. FIREARMS, WEAPONS AND MISSILES.
5. TRESPASSING AND INTERFERENCE WITH TRAFFIC.
6. MISCELLANEOUS.

#### CHAPTER 1

#### ALCOHOL<sup>2</sup>

#### SECTION

11-101. Drinking alcoholic beverages in public, etc.

**11-101. Drinking alcoholic beverages in public, etc.** It shall be unlawful for any person to drink, consume or have an open can or bottle of beer or intoxicating liquor in or on any public street, alley, avenue, highway, sidewalk, public park, public school ground or other public place.

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code references

Animal control: title 10.

Fireworks and explosives: title 7.

Traffic offenses: title 15.

Streets and sidewalks (non-traffic): title 16.

<sup>2</sup>Municipal code reference

Sale of alcoholic beverages, including beer: title 8.

State law reference

See Tennessee Code Annotated § 33-8-203 (Arrest for Public Intoxication, cities may not pass separate legislation).

**CHAPTER 2****FORTUNE TELLING, ETC.****SECTION**

11-201. Fortune telling, etc.

**11-201. Fortune telling, etc.** It shall be unlawful for any person to conduct the business of, solicit for, or ply the trade of fortune teller, clairvoyant, hypnotist, spiritualist, palmist, phrenologist, or other mystic endowed with supernatural powers.

## CHAPTER 3

### OFFENSES AGAINST THE PEACE AND QUIET

#### SECTION

11-301. Disturbing the peace.

11-302. Anti-noise regulations.

**11-301. Disturbing the peace.** No person shall disturb, tend to disturb, or aid in disturbing the peace of others by violent, tumultuous, offensive, or obstreperous conduct, and no person shall knowingly permit such conduct upon any premises owned or possessed by him or under his control.

**11-302. Anti-noise regulations.** Subject to the provisions of this section, the creating of any unreasonably loud, disturbing, and unnecessary noise is prohibited. Noise of such character, intensity, or duration as to be detrimental to the life or health of any individual, or in disturbance of the public peace and welfare, is prohibited.

(1) Miscellaneous prohibited noises enumerated. The following acts, among others, are declared to be loud, disturbing, and unnecessary noises in violation of this section, but this enumeration shall not be deemed to be exclusive, namely:

(a) Blowing horns. The sounding of any horn or other device on any automobile, motorcycle, bus, truck, or vehicle while not in motion except as a danger signal if another vehicle is approaching, apparently out of control, or if in motion, only as a danger signal after or as brakes are being applied and deceleration of the vehicle is intended; the creation by means of any such signal device of any unreasonably loud or harsh sound; and the sounding of such device for an unnecessary and unreasonable period of time.

(b) Radios, phonographs, etc. The playing of any radio, phonograph, or any musical instrument or sound device, including but not limited to loudspeakers or other devices for reproduction or amplification of sound, either independently of or in connection with motion pictures, radio, or television, in such a manner or with such volume, particularly during the hours between 11:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M., as to annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort, or repose of persons in any office or hospital, or in any dwelling, hotel, or other type of residence, or of any person in the vicinity.

(c) Yelling, shouting, etc. Yelling, shouting, whistling, or singing on the public streets, particularly between the hours of 11:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M., or at any time or place so as to annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort, or repose of any person in any hospital, dwelling, hotel, or other type of residence, or of any person in the vicinity.

(d) Pets. The keeping of any animal, bird, or fowl which by causing frequent or long continued noise shall disturb the comfort or repose of any person in the vicinity.

(e) Use of vehicle. The use of any automobile, motorcycle, truck, or vehicle so out of repair, so loaded, or in such manner as to cause loud and unnecessary grating, grinding, rattling, or other noise.

(f) Blowing whistles. The blowing of any steam whistle attached to any stationary boiler, except to give notice of the time to begin or stop work or as a warning of fire or danger, or upon request of proper city authorities.

(g) Exhaust discharge. To discharge into the open air the exhaust of any steam engine, stationary internal combustion engine, motor vehicle, or boat engine, except through a muffler or other device which will effectively prevent loud or explosive noises therefrom.

(h) Building operations. The erection (including excavation), demolition, alteration, or repair of any building in any residential area or section or the construction or repair of streets and highways in any residential area or section, other than between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. on week days, except in case of urgent necessity in the interest of public health and safety, and then only with a permit from the building inspector granted for a period while the emergency continues not to exceed thirty (30) days. If the building inspector should determine that the public health and safety will not be impaired by the erection, demolition, alteration, or repair of any building or the excavation of streets and highways between the hours of 6:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M., and if he shall further determine that loss or inconvenience would result to any party in interest through delay, he may grant permission for such work to be done between the hours of 6:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M. upon application being made at the time the permit for the work is awarded or during the process of the work.

(i) Noises near schools, hospitals, churches, etc. The creation of any excessive noise on any street adjacent to any hospital or adjacent to any school, institution of learning, church, or court while the same is in session.

(j) Loading and unloading operations. The creation of any loud and excessive noise in connection with the loading or unloading of any vehicle or the opening and destruction of bales, boxes, crates, and other containers.

(k) Noises to attract attention. The use of any drum, loudspeaker, or other instrument or device emitting noise for the purpose of attracting attention to any performance, show, or sale or display of merchandise.



(1) Loudspeakers or amplifiers on vehicles. The use of mechanical loudspeakers or amplifiers on trucks or other moving or standing vehicles for advertising or other purposes.

(2) Exceptions. None of the terms or prohibitions hereof shall apply to or be enforced against:

(a) City vehicles. Any vehicle of the city while engaged upon necessary public business.

(b) Repair of streets, etc. Excavations or repairs of bridges, streets, or highways at night, by or on behalf of the city, the county, or the state, when the public welfare and convenience renders it impracticable to perform such work during the day.

(c) Noncommercial and nonprofit use of loudspeakers or amplifiers. The reasonable use of amplifiers or loudspeakers in the course of public addresses which are noncommercial in character and in the course of advertising functions sponsored by nonprofit organizations. However, no such use shall be made until a permit therefor is secured from the board of mayor and aldermen. Hours for the use of an amplified or public address system will be designated in the permit so issued and the use of such systems shall be restricted to the hours so designated in the permit.

## CHAPTER 4

**FIREARMS, WEAPONS AND MISSILES****SECTION**

- 11-401. Air rifles, etc.
- 11-402. Throwing missiles.
- 11-403. Discharge of firearms.

**11-401. Air rifles, etc.** It shall be unlawful for any person in the city to discharge any air gun, air pistol, air rifle, "BB" gun, or sling shot capable of discharging a bullet or pellet, made of metal, plastic or any other kind of material, whether propelled by spring, compressed air, expanding gas, explosive, or other force-producing means or method.

**11-402. Throwing missiles.** It shall be unlawful for any person to maliciously throw any stone, snowball, bottle, or any other missile upon or at any vehicle, building, tree, or other public or private property or upon or at any person.

**11-403. Discharge of firearms.** It shall be unlawful for any unauthorized person to discharge a firearm within the corporate limits.

## CHAPTER 5

TRESPASSING AND INTERFERENCE WITH TRAFFIC

## SECTION

11-501. Trespassing.

11-502. Interference with traffic.

**11-501. Trespassing.**<sup>1</sup> (1) On premises open to the public.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to defy a lawful order, personally communicated to him by the owner or other authorized person, not to enter or remain upon the premises of another, including premises which are at the time open to the public.

(b) The owner of the premises, or his authorized agent, may lawfully order another not to enter or remain upon the premises if such person is committing, or commits, any act which interferes with, or tends to interfere with, the normal, orderly, peaceful or efficient conduct of the activities of such premises.

(2) On premises closed or partially closed to public. It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly enter or remain upon the premises of another which is not open to the public, notwithstanding that another part of the premises is at the time open to the public.

(3) Vacant buildings. It shall be unlawful for any person to enter or remain upon the premises of a vacated building after notice against trespass is personally communicated to him by the owner or other authorized person or is posted in a conspicuous manner.

(4) Lots and buildings in general. It shall be unlawful for any person to enter or remain on or in any lot or parcel of land or any building or other structure after notice against trespass is personally communicated to him by the owner or other authorized person or is posted in a conspicuous manner.

(5) Peddlers, etc. It shall also be unlawful and deemed to be a trespass for any peddler, canvasser, solicitor, transient merchant, or other person to fail to promptly leave the private premises of any person who requests or directs him to leave.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>State law reference

Subsections (1) through (4) of this section were taken substantially from Tennessee Code Annotated, § 39-14-405.

<sup>2</sup>Municipal code reference

Provisions governing peddlers: title 9, chapter 1.

**11-502. Interference with traffic.** It shall be unlawful for any person to stand, sit, or engage in any activity whatever on any public street, sidewalk, bridge, or public ground in such a manner as to prevent, obstruct, or interfere with the free passage of pedestrian or vehicular traffic thereon.

## CHAPTER 6

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### SECTION

11-601. Abandoned refrigerators, etc.

11-602. Caves, wells, cisterns, etc.

11-603. Posting notices, etc.

11-604. Curfew for minors.

11-605. Violation and penalty.

**11-601. Abandoned refrigerators, etc.** It shall be unlawful for any person to leave in any place accessible to children any abandoned, unattended, unused, or discarded refrigerator, icebox, or other container with any type latching or locking door without first removing therefrom the latch, lock, or door or otherwise sealing the door in such a manner that it cannot be opened by any child.

**11-602. Caves, wells, cisterns, etc.** It shall be unlawful for any person to permit to be maintained on property owned or occupied by him any cave, well, cistern, or other such opening in the ground which is dangerous to life and limb without an adequate cover or safeguard.

**11-603. Posting notices, etc.** No person shall paint, make, or fasten, in any way, any show-card, poster, or other advertising device or sign upon any public or private property unless legally authorized to do so. Each posting of such unauthorized notice shall constitute a separate offense.

**11-604. Curfew for minors.** It shall be unlawful for any person age sixteen (16) or under to loiter or be found in on or about streets, alleys, parking lots or other public places in the Town of Bells, Tennessee, between 10:00 PM and 5:00 AM unless accompanied by parent, guardian, or other adult person having lawful custody of such minor. It shall also be unlawful for parents, guardians or other adult persons to allow minors to be in violation of this section. (Ord. of Dec. 18, 1989, modified)

**11-605. Violation of penalty.** A violation of any provision of this title shall be punishable under the general penalty provision of this code.

TITLE 12

BUILDING, UTILITY, ETC. CODES

[RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE]

**TITLE 13**

**PROPERTY MAINTENANCE REGULATIONS<sup>1</sup>**

**CHAPTER**

1. MISCELLANEOUS.
2. JUNKYARDS.
3. SLUM CLEARANCE.
4. JUNKED VEHICLES.

**CHAPTER 1**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**SECTION**

- 13-101. Smoke, soot, cinders, etc.
- 13-102. Stagnant water.
- 13-103. Weeds and grass.
- 13-104. Dead animals.
- 13-105. Health and sanitation nuisances.
- 13-106. Open burning.
- 13-107. Violations and penalty.

**13-101. Smoke, soot, cinders, etc.** It shall be unlawful for any person to permit or cause the escape of such quantities of dense smoke, soot, cinders, noxious acids, fumes, dust, or gases as to be detrimental to or to endanger the health, comfort, and safety of the public or so as to cause or have a tendency to cause injury or damage to property or business.

**13-102. Stagnant water.** It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly to allow any pool of stagnant water to accumulate and stand on his property without treating it so as effectively to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes.

**13-103. Weeds and grass.** Every owner or tenant of property shall periodically cut the grass and other vegetation commonly recognized as weeds on his property, and it shall be unlawful for any person to fail to comply with an order by the city recorder to cut such vegetation when it has reached a height of over one (1) foot.

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code references

Animal control: title 10.

Littering streets, etc.: § 16-107.

Toilet facilities in beer places: § 8-213(10).

Wastewater treatment: title 18, chapter 2.

**13-104. Dead animals.** Any person owning or having possession of any dead animal not intended for use as food shall promptly bury the same or notify the city recorder and dispose of such animal in such manner as the city recorder shall direct.

**13-105. Health and sanitation nuisances.** It shall be unlawful for any person to permit any premises owned, occupied, or controlled by him to become or remain in a filthy condition, or permit the use or occupation of same in such a manner as to create noxious or offensive smells and odors in connection therewith, or to allow the accumulation or creation of unwholesome and offensive matter or the breeding of flies, rodents, or other vermin on the premises to the menace of the public health or the annoyance of people residing within the vicinity.

**13-106. Open burning.** (1) Definitions. (a) "Open burning." Any person burning or causing to be burned any flammable material in a method other than within an enclosure from which burning material cannot escape.

(b) "Person." Person means any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, association, public or private institution, political subdivision, or other government agency.

(2) Purpose - The purpose of this section is to regulate certain open burning in order to protect the public from the hazards of uncontrolled fires and pollution.

(3) Standards for burning. (a) No person shall willfully start or cause to be started any open fire within the corporate limits of Bells without first obtaining a burning permit from the city.

(b) Prevailing winds at the time of ignition must be away from any dwelling, structure, major highway, or other populated area, the ambient air of which may be significantly affected by smoke, fly ash, or other air contaminants from burning.

(c) Burning shall not be initiated when it is determined by the fire chief or his designee, based on information supplied by a competent authority, that stagnant air conditions or inversions exist, or that such conditions may occur during the duration of the burn.

(d) Asphaltic material, or items containing natural or synthetic rubber, shall not be burned or used to ignite the material to be burned or to promote the burning of such material.

(e) All fires shall be completely extinguished by one-half hour (30 minutes) after sundown.

(f) No burning shall be permitted within thirty (30) feet of any structure or dwelling.



(g) All fires must be attended to and under the direct supervision at all times by a persons or persons that have sufficient capability and equipment to provide for complete extinguishment of the fire as needed.

(4) Permits. (a) Burning permits will be obtained from the fire chief or his designee.

(b) Permits issued under this section shall be issued in the name of the person undertaking the burning and shall specify the specific area in which the burning is to occur, the type and amount of material to be burned, the duration of the permit, and such other factors as are necessary to identify the burning which is allowed under the permit.

(c) The fire chief or his designee has the authority to prohibit open burning within the corporate limits of Bells due to hazardous local meterological conditions. The fire chief or his designee will notify proper state and local agencies, if practicable, that a burning ban has been placed in effect. (Ord. #8-90A, Aug. 1990)

**13-107. Violations and penalty.** Violations of this chapter shall subject the offender to a penalty of up to five hundred dollars (\$500) for each offense. Each day a violation is allowed to continue shall constitute a separate offense.

**CHAPTER 2****JUNKYARDS****SECTION**

13-201. Junkyards.

13-202. Violations and penalty.

**13-201. Junkyards.**<sup>1</sup> All junkyards within the corporate limits shall be operated and maintained subject to the following regulations:

(1) All junk stored or kept in such yards shall be so kept that it will not catch and hold water in which mosquitoes may breed and so that it will not constitute a place, or places in which rats, mice, or other vermin may be harbored, reared, or propagated.

(2) All such junkyards shall be enclosed within close fitting plank or metal solid fences touching the ground on the bottom and being not less than six (6) feet in height, such fence to be built so that it will be impossible for stray cats and/or stray dogs to have access to such junkyards.

(3) Such yards shall be so maintained as to be in a sanitary condition and so as not to be a menace to the public health or safety.

**13-202. Violations and penalty.** Violations of this chapter shall subject the offender to a penalty of up to five hundred dollars (\$500) for each offense. Each day a violation is allowed to continue shall constitute a separate offense.

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<sup>1</sup>State law reference

The provisions of this section were taken substantially from the Bristol ordinance upheld by the Tennessee Court of Appeals as being a reasonable and valid exercise of the police power in the case of Hagaman v. Slaughter, 49 Tenn. App. 338, 354 S.W.2d 818 (1961).

## CHAPTER 3

### SLUM CLEARANCE<sup>1</sup>

#### SECTION

- 13-301. Findings of board.
- 13-302. Definitions.
- 13-303. "Public officer" designated; powers.
- 13-304. Initiation of proceedings; hearings.
- 13-305. Orders to owners of unfit structures.
- 13-306. When public officer may repair, etc.
- 13-307. When public officer may remove or demolish.
- 13-308. Lien for expenses; sale of salvage materials; other powers not limited.
- 13-309. Basis for a finding of unfitness.
- 13-310. Service of complaints or orders.
- 13-311. Enjoining enforcement of orders.
- 13-312. Additional powers of public officer.
- 13-313. Powers conferred are supplemental.
- 13-314. Abatement of nuisances.
- 13-315. Penalty.

**13-301. Findings of board.** Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, § 13-21-101, et seq., the board of mayor and aldermen finds that there exists in the city structures which are unfit for human occupation due to dilapidation, defects increasing the hazards of fire, accident or other calamities, lack of ventilation, light or sanitary facilities, or due to other conditions rendering such dwellings unsafe or unsanitary, or dangerous or detrimental to the health, safety and morals, or otherwise inimical to the welfare of the residents of the city. Pursuant to the power and authority conferred upon such municipalities by the statute hereinabove quoted in this section, and by § 4 of the city charter particularly paragraphs (i) and (l), the city makes provisions herein to exercise its powers to repair, close or demolish the structures hereinabove described and to remove and abate the nuisances in the manner herein set forth. (Ord. of Oct. 16, 1995)

**13-302. Definitions.** (1) "Dwelling" means any building or structure, or part thereof, used and occupied for human occupation or use or intended to be so used, and includes any outhouses and appurtenances belonging thereto or usually enjoyed therewith.

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<sup>1</sup>State law reference

Tennessee Code Annotated, title 13, chapter 21.

(2) "Governing body" shall mean the board of mayor and aldermen charged with governing the city.

(3) "Municipality" shall mean the City of Bells, Tennessee, and the areas encompassed within existing city limits or as hereafter annexed.

(4) "Owner" shall mean the holder of title in fee simple and every mortgagee of record.

(5) "Parties in interest" shall mean all individuals, associations, corporations and others who have interests of record in a dwelling and any who are in possession thereof, any person under whose permission the tenant or tenants are in possession thereof and who collects the rents or in any manner whatsoever acts as agent of "owner."

(6) "Place of public accommodation" means any building or structure in which goods are supplied or services performed, or in which the trade of the general public is solicited.

(7) "Public authority" shall mean any housing authority or any officer who is in charge of any department or branch of the government of the city or state relating to health, fire, building regulations, or other activities concerning structures in the city, or any officer who is in charge of any department of the city which is concerned with the safety, peace and general welfare of the residents of the city.

(8) "Public officer" shall mean the officer or officers who are authorized by this chapter to exercise the powers prescribed herein and pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, § 13-21-101, et seq.

(9) "Structure" means any dwelling or place of public accommodation or vacant building or structure suitable as a dwelling or place of public accommodation. (Ord. of Oct. 16, 1995)

**13-303. "Public officer" designated; powers.** There is hereby designated and appointed a "public officer," to be the fire chief and any one (1) bonded alderman of the city, to exercise the powers prescribed by this chapter, by Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 13-21-107 through 13-21-109, inclusive, and by charter of this municipality. (Ord. of Oct. 16, 1995)

**13-304. Initiation of proceedings; hearings.** Whenever a petition is filed with the public officer by a public authority or by at least five (5) residents of the city charging that any structure is unfit for human occupancy or use, or whenever it appears to the public officer (on his own motion) that any structure is unfit for human occupation or use, the public officer shall, if his preliminary investigation discloses a basis for such charges, issue and cause to be served upon the owner of, and parties in interest of, such structure a complaint stating the charges in that respect and containing a notice that a hearing will be held before the public officer (or his designated agent) at a place therein fixed, not less than ten (10) days nor more than thirty (30) days after the service of the complaint; and the owner and parties in interest shall have the right to file an

answer to the complaint and to appear in person, or otherwise, and give testimony at the time and place fixed in the complaint; and the rules of evidence prevailing in courts of law or equity shall not be controlling in hearings before the public officer. (Ord. of Oct. 16, 1995)

**13-305. Orders to owners of unfit structures.** If, after such notice and hearing as provided for in the preceding section, the public officer determines that the structure under consideration is unfit for human occupation or use, he shall state in writing his finding of fact in support of such determination and shall issue and cause to be served upon the owner thereof an order:

(1) If the repair, alteration or improvement of the structure can be made at a reasonable cost in relation to the value of the structure (not exceeding fifty percent [50%] of the reasonable value), requiring the owner, within the time specified in the order, to repair, alter, or improve such structure to render it fit for human occupation or use or to vacate and close the structure for human occupation or use; or

(2) If the repair, alteration or improvement of said structure cannot be made at a reasonable cost in relation to the value of the structure (not to exceed fifty percent [50%] of the value of the premises), requiring the owner within the time specified in the order, to remove or demolish such structure. (Ord. of Oct. 16, 1995)

**13-306. When public officer may repair, etc.** If the owner fails to comply with the order to repair, alter, or improve or to vacate and close the structure as specified in the preceding section hereof, the public officer may cause such structure to be repaired, altered, or improved, or to be vacated and closed; and the public officer may cause to be posted on the main entrance of any dwelling so closed, a placard with the following words: "This building is unfit for human occupation or use. The use or occupation of this building for human occupation or use is prohibited and unlawful." (Ord. of Oct. 16, 1995)

**13-307. When public officer may remove or demolish.** If the owner fails to comply with an order, as specified above, to remove or demolish the structure, the public officer may cause such structure to be removed and demolished. (Ord. of Oct. 16, 1995)

**13-308. Lien for expenses; sale of salvaged materials; other powers not limited.** The amount of the cost of such repairs, alterations or improvements, or vacating and closing, or removal or demolition by the public officer shall be assessed against the owner of the property, and shall upon the filing of the notice with the office of the register of deeds of Crockett County, be a lien on the property in favor of the municipality, second only to liens of the state, county and municipality for taxes, any lien of the municipality for special

assessments, and any valid lien, right, or interest in such property duly recorded or duly perfected by filing, prior to the filing of such notice. These costs shall be collected by the municipal tax collector or county trustee at the same time and in the same manner as property taxes are collected. If the owner fails to pay the costs, they may be collected at the same time and in the same manner as delinquent property taxes are collected and shall be subject to the same penalty and interest as delinquent property taxes. In addition, the municipality may collect the costs assessed against the owner through an action for debt filed in any court of competent jurisdiction. The municipality may bring one (1) action for debt against more than one or all of the owners of properties against whom said costs have been assessed and the fact that multiple owners have been joined in one (1) action shall not be considered by the court as a misjoinder of parties. If the structure is removed or demolished by the public officer, he shall sell the materials of such structure and shall credit the proceeds of such sale against the cost of the removal or demolition, and any balance remaining shall be deposited in the chancery court of Crockett County by the public officer, shall be secured in such manner as may be directed by such court, and shall be disbursed by such court to the person found to be entitled thereto by final order or decree of such court. Nothing in this section shall be construed to impair or limit in any way the power of the City of Bells to define and declare nuisances and to cause their removal or abatement, by summary proceedings or otherwise. (Ord. of Oct. 16, 1995)

**13-309. Basis for a finding of unfitness.** The public officer defined herein shall have the power and may determine that a structure is unfit for human occupation and use if he finds that conditions exist in such structure which are dangerous or injurious to the health, safety or morals of the occupants or users of such structure, the occupants or users of neighboring structures or other residents of the City of Bells. Such conditions may include the following (without limiting the generality of the foregoing): defects therein increasing the hazards of fire, accident, or other calamities; lack of adequate ventilation, light, or sanitary facilities; dilapidation; disrepair; structural defects; or uncleanness or any structure which has been damaged by fire, wind or other causes so as to have become dangerous to life, safety, morals, or the general health and welfare of any person or persons who occupy, or who might seek to occupy, the same, or to the general public; or, any structure which does not contain adequate, functional toilet facilities for sanitary and lawful disposal of human excreta; or, any structure or building of any kind, from which, because of age, dilapidation, decay, or uncleanness or unsanitary conditions, there continuously emanates obnoxious odors. (Ord. of Oct. 16, 1995)

**13-310. Service of complaints or orders.** Complaints or orders issued by the public officer pursuant to this chapter shall be served upon persons, either personally or by registered mail, but if the whereabouts of such persons

are unknown and the same cannot be ascertained by the public officer in the exercise of reasonable diligence, and the public officer shall make an affidavit to that effect, then the serving of such complaint or order upon such persons may be made by publishing the same once each week for two (2) consecutive weeks in a newspaper printed and published in the city, or in the absence of such newspaper, in one printed and published in the county and circulating in the city in which the structures are located. In addition, a copy of such complaint or order shall be posted in a conspicuous place on premises affected by the complaint or order. A copy of such complaint or order shall also be filed for record in the Register's Office of Crockett County, Tennessee, and such filing shall have the same force and effect as other lis pendens notices provided by law. (Ord. of Oct. 16, 1995)

**13-311. Enjoining enforcement of orders.** Any person affected by an order issued by the public officer served pursuant to this chapter may file a bill in chancery court for an injunction restraining the public officer from carrying out the provisions of the order, and the court may, upon the filing of such suit, issue a temporary injunction restraining the public officer pending the final disposition of the cause; provided, however, that within sixty (60) days after the posting and service of the order of the public officer, such person shall file such bill in the court. Hearings shall be had by the court on such bills within (20) days, or as soon thereafter as possible, and shall be given preference over other matters on the court's calendar.

The court shall hear and determine the issues raised and shall enter such final order or decree as law and justice may require. In all such proceedings the findings of the public officer as to facts, if supported by evidence, shall be conclusive. Costs shall be in the discretion of the court. The remedies herein provided shall be exclusive remedies and no person affected by an order of the public officer shall be entitled to recover any damages for action taken pursuant to any order of the public officer, or because of noncompliance by such person with any order of the public officer. (Ord. of Oct. 16, 1995)

**13-312. Additional powers of public officer.** The public officer, in order to carry out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this chapter, shall have the following powers in addition to those otherwise granted herein:

- (1) To investigate conditions of the structures in the city in order to determine which structures therein are unfit for human occupation or use;
- (2) To administer oaths, affirmations, examine witnesses and receive evidence;
- (3) To enter upon premises for the purpose of making examination, provided that such entry shall be made in such manner as to cause the least possible inconvenience to the persons in possession;
- (4) To appoint and fix the duties of such officers, agents and employees as he deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter; and

(5) To delegate any of his functions and powers under this chapter to such officers and agents as he may designate. (Ord. of Oct. 16, 1995)

**13-313. Powers conferred are supplemental.** This chapter shall not be construed to abrogate or impair the powers of the city with regard to the enforcement of the provisions of its charter or any other ordinances or regulations, nor to prevent or punish violations thereof, and the powers conferred by this chapter shall be in addition and supplemental to the powers conferred by the charter and other laws. (Ord. of Oct. 16, 1995)

**13-314. Abatement of nuisances.** Pursuant to authority of the charter of the municipality, particularly paragraphs (i) and (l) of § 4 thereof, all the foregoing conditions defining structures not fit for human occupancy or use are declared to be a nuisance, and the procedures set forth herein, although not exclusive but in addition to all other available remedies, may be used in the removal and abatement of such nuisances. (Ord. of Oct. 16, 1995)

**13-315. Penalty.** Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined under the general penalty clause of this code, and each day of violation of any provision of this chapter shall constitute a separate offense. (Ord. of Oct. 16, 1995)



## CHAPTER 4

### JUNKED VEHICLES

#### SECTION

- 13-401. Definitions.
- 13-402. Violations a civil offense.
- 13-403. Exceptions.
- 13-404. Enforcement.
- 13-405. Penalty for violations.

**13-401. Definitions.** (1) "Person" shall mean any natural person, or any firm, partnership, association, corporation or other organization of any kind and description.

(2) "Private property" shall include all property that is not public property, regardless of how the property is zoned or used.

(3) "Traveled portion of any public street or highway" shall mean the width of the street from curb to curb, or where there are no curbs, the entire width of the paved portion of the street, or where the street is unpaved, the entire width of the street in which vehicles ordinarily use for travel.

(4) (a) "Vehicle" shall mean any machine propelled by power other than human power, designed to travel along the ground by the use of wheels, treads, self-laying tracks, runners, slides or skids, including but not limited to automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, motor scooters, go-carts, campers, tractors, trailers, tractor-trailers, buggies, wagons, and earth-moving equipment, and any part of the same.

(b) "Junk vehicle" shall mean a vehicle of any age that is damaged or defective in any one or combination of any of the following ways that either make the vehicle immediately inoperable, or would prohibit the vehicle from being operated in a reasonably safe manner upon the public streets and highways under its own power if self-propelled, or while being towed or pushed, if not self-propelled:

(i) Flat tires, missing tires, missing wheels, or missing or partially or totally disassembled tires and wheels;

(ii) Missing or partially or totally disassembled essential part or parts of the vehicle's drive train, including, but not limited to, engine, transmission, transaxle, drive shaft, differential, or axle.

(iii) Extensive exterior body damage or missing or partially or totally disassemble essential body parts, including, but not limited to, fenders, doors, engine hood, bumper or bumpers, windshield, or windows.

(iv) Missing or partially or totally disassemble essential interior parts, including, but not limited to, driver's seat, steering wheel, instrument panel, clutch, brake, gear shift lever.

(v) Missing or partially or totally disassembled parts essential to the starting or running of the vehicle under its own power, including, but not limited to, starter, generator or alternator, battery, distributor, gas tank, carburetor or fuel injection system, spark plugs, or radiator.

(vi) Interior is a container for metal, glass, paper, rags or other cloth, wood, auto parts, machinery, waste or discarded materials in such quantity, quality and arrangement that a driver cannot be properly seated in the vehicle;

(vii) Lying on the ground (upside down, on its side, or at other extreme angle), sitting on block or suspended in the air by any other method.

(viii) General environment in which the vehicle sits, including, but not limited to, vegetation that has grown up around, in or through the vehicle, the collections of pools of water in the vehicle, and the accumulation of other garbage or debris around the vehicle. (As added by Ord. #05272003, June 2003)

**13-402. Violations a civil offense.** It shall be unlawful and a civil offense for any person:

(1) To park and or in any other manner place and leave unattended on the traveled portion of any public street or highway a junk vehicle for any period of time, even if the owner or operator of the vehicle did not intend to permanently desert or forsake the vehicle.

(2) To park or in any other manner place and leave unattended on the untraveled portion of any street or highway, or upon any other public property, a junk vehicle for more than forty-eight (48) continuous hours, even if the owner of operator of the vehicle did not intend to permanently desert or forsake the vehicle.

(3) To park, store, keep, maintain on private property a junk vehicle for more than sixty (60) days. (As added by Ord. #05272003, June 2003)

**13-403. Exceptions.** (1) (a) It shall be permissible for a person to park, store, keep and maintain a junked vehicle on private property under the following conditions:

(b) The junk vehicle is completely enclosed within a building where neither the vehicle nor any part of it is visible from the street or from any other abutting property. However, this exception shall not exempt the owner or person in possession of the property from any zoning, building, housing, property maintenance, and other regulations governing the building in which such vehicle is enclosed.

(c) The junk vehicle is parked and stored on property lawfully zoned for business engaged in wrecking, junking or repairing vehicles. However, this exception shall not exempt the owner or operator of any such business from any other zoning, building, property maintenance and other regulations governing business engaged in wrecking, junking or repairing vehicles.

(2) No person shall park, store, keep and maintain on private property a junk vehicle for any period of time if it poses an immediate threat to the health and safety of citizens of the city. (As added by Ord. #05272003, June 2003)

**13-404. Enforcement.** Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, § 7-63-101, the chief of police is authorized to issue ordinance summons for violations of this chapter on private property. The chief of police shall upon the complaint of any citizen, or acting on his own information, investigate complaints of junked vehicle on private property. If after such investigation the chief of police finds a junked vehicle on private property, he shall issue an ordinance summons. The ordinance summons shall be served upon the owner or owners of the property, or upon the person or persons apparently in lawful possession of the property, and shall give notice to the same to appear and answer the charges against him or them. If the offender refuses to sign the agreement to appear, the chief of police may

(1) Request the city judge to issue a summons, or

(2) Request a police officer to witness the violation. The police officer who witnesses the violation may issue the offender a citation in lieu of arrest as authorized by Tennessee Code Annotated, § 7-63-101 et seq., or if the offender refuses to sign the citation, may arrest the offender for failure to sign the citation in lieu of arrest. (As added by Ord. #05272003, June 2003)

**13-405. Penalty for violations.** Any person violating this chapter shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$50 for each separate violation of this chapter. Each day the violation of this chapter continues to be considered a separate violation. (As added by Ord. #05272003, June 2003)

**TITLE 14****ZONING AND LAND USE CONTROL****CHAPTER**

1. MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION.
2. MOBILE HOME ORDINANCE.

**CHAPTER 1****MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION****SECTION**

- 14-101. Creation and membership.  
14-102. Organization, powers, duties, etc.

**14-101. Creation and membership.** Pursuant to the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, § 13-4-101, there is hereby created a municipal planning commission, hereinafter referred to as the planning commission. The planning commission shall consist of five members; two of these shall be the mayor and another member of the board of mayor and aldermen, selected by the board of mayor and aldermen; the other three members shall be appointed by the mayor. All members of the planning commission shall serve as such without compensation. Except for the initial appointments, the terms of the three members appointed by the mayor shall be for three years each. The three members first appointed shall be appointed for terms of one, two, and three years respectively so that the term of one member expires each year. The terms of the mayor and the member appointed by the board of mayor and aldermen shall run concurrently their terms of office. Any vacancy in an appointive membership shall be filled for the unexpired term by the mayor, who shall also have the authority to remove any appointive member at his will and pleasure. (As added by Ord. #092799C, Oct. 1999)

**14-102. Organization, powers, duties, etc.** The planning commission shall be organized and shall carry out its powers, functions, and duties in accordance with all applicable provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, title 13. (As added by Ord. #092799C, Oct. 1999)

## CHAPTER 2

### MOBILE HOME ORDINANCE

#### SECTION

- 14-201. Definitions.
- 14-202. Location of mobile homes.
- 14-203. Previous mobile homes "grandfathered."
- 14-204. State tax sticker required.
- 14-205. Permit for mobile home park.
- 14-206. Inspections.
- 14-207. Location and planning.
- 14-208. Minimum size of mobile home park.
- 14-209. Minimum number of spaces.
- 14-210. Minimum mobile homes space and spacing of mobile homes.
- 14-211. Water supply.
- 14-212. Sewage disposal.
- 14-213. Refuse.
- 14-214. Electricity.
- 14-215. Streets.
- 14-216. Parking spaces.
- 14-217. Buffer strip.
- 14-218. License for mobile home parks.
- 14-219. License fees for mobile home parks.
- 14-220. Application for license.
- 14-221. Enforcement.
- 14-222. Violations and penalty.

**14-201. Definitions.** (1) "Mobile home." A detached single family dwelling unit with all of the following characteristics:

(a) Designed for long-term occupancy, and containing sleeping accommodations, a flush toilet, a tub or shower bath and kitchen facilities, with plumbing and electrical connections provided for attachment to outside systems.

(b) Designed to be transported after fabrication on its own wheels on a single chassis, or on a flatbed or other trailers or detachable wheels, but not including "manufactured homes."

(c) Arriving at the site where it is to be occupied as a complete dwelling including major appliances and furniture, and ready for occupancy except for minor and incidental unpacking and assembly operations, connection to utilities and the like.

(2) "Mobile home park (trailer court)." The term mobile home park shall mean any plot of ground on which two (2) or more mobile homes, occupied for dwelling or sleeping purposes are located.

(3) "Mobile home space." The term shall mean a plot of ground within a mobile home park designated for the accommodation of one (1) mobile home.

(4) "Permit (license)." The permit required for trailer parks and single mobile homes. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-202. Location of mobile homes.** It shall be unlawful for any mobile home to be used, stored, or placed on any lot or serviced by the utilities of the city where the mobile home is outside of any designated and licensed mobile home park after November 8, 1999. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-203. Previous mobile homes "grandfathered."** The owner or occupant of any mobile home already placed on a lot, on or before November 8, 1999 will be permitted to reside at the present location, without complying with any of the provisions of this chapter. However, if at any time the ownership or occupancy of either the lot or mobile home shall change or if the mobile home is moved from its present location, the mobile home owner shall be given a period not to exceed thirty (30) days in which to remove the mobile home or to comply with all provisions of this chapter. The board of mayor and aldermen may, upon a finding that it is in the public interest, waive the requirements of this chapter to permit the re-establishment of a mobile home which has been substantially destroyed by fire, explosion, or act of God. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999, and amended by Ord. #04232001, May 2001)

**14-204. State tax sticker required.** No mobile home shall be used, placed, stored or serviced by utilities within any mobile home park in the city unless there is posted near the door of the mobile home a valid Tennessee State Tax Sticker. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-205. Permit for mobile home park.** No place or site within the city shall be established or maintained by any person, group of persons, or corporation as a mobile home park unless he holds a valid permit issued by the mayor in the names of such person or persons for the specific mobile home park. The mayor is authorized to issue, suspend, or revoke permits in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-206. Inspections.** Appropriate city employees or contract employees designated by the mayor are hereby authorized and directed to make inspections to determine the condition of mobile home parks, in order to safeguard the health and safety of occupants of mobile home parks and of the general public. Said employees shall have the power to enter at reasonable times upon any private or public property for the purpose of inspecting and investigating conditions relating to the enforcement of this chapter. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-207. Location and planning.** The mobile home park shall be located on a well-drained site and shall be so located that its drainage will not endanger any water supply and shall be in conformity with a plan approved by the board of mayor and alderman or planning commission if one is hereafter

created. The city board or commission, as appropriate, may promulgate regulations for mobile home park location and plan approval, which shall provide for adequate space, lighting, drainage, sanitary facilities, safety features, and service buildings as may be necessary to protect the public health, prevent nuisances, and provide for the convenience and welfare of the mobile home park occupants. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-208. Minimize size of mobile home park.** The tract of land for the mobile home park shall comprise an area of not less than two (2) acres. The tract of land shall consist of a single plat so dimensioned and related as to facilitate efficient design and management. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-209. Minimum number of spaces.** Minimum number of spaces completed and ready for occupancy before first occupancy is ten (10). (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-210. Minimum mobile homes space and spacing of mobile homes.** Each mobile home space shall be adequate for the type of facility occupying the same. Mobile homes shall be parked on each space so that there will be at least fifteen (15) feet of open space between mobile homes or any attachment such as a garage or porch, and at least ten (10) feet end to end spacing between trailers and any building or structure, twenty (20) feet between any trailer and property line and twenty-five (25) feet from the right-of-way of any public street or highway.

The individual plot sizes for mobile home spaces shall be determined as follows:

- (1) Minimum lot area of two thousand four hundred (2,400) square feet;
- (2) Minimum depth with end parking of an automobile shall be equal to the length of the mobile home plus thirty (30) feet;
- (3) Minimum depth with side or street parking shall be equal to the length of mobile home plus fifteen (15) feet; and
- (4) In no case shall the minimum width be less than forty (40) feet and the minimum depth less than sixty (60) feet. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-211. Water supply.** Where a public water supply is available, it shall be used exclusively. An additional water service connection shall be provided for each mobile home space, with meter for each individual trailer. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-212. Sewage disposal.** Sewage shall be disposed of into and through the public sewage system where there is an available sewer.

Each mobile home space shall be equipped with at least a four (4) inch sewer connection. All sewer lines shall be laid in trenches separated at least ten (10) feet horizontally from any drinking water supply line. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-213. Refuse.** The storage, collection and disposal of refuse, in the park shall be so managed as to create no health hazards. All refuse shall be stored in fly proof, water tight and rodent proof containers. Satisfactory container racks or holders shall be provided. Garbage shall be collected and disposed of in an approved manner at least once per week. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-214. Electricity.** An electrical outlet supplying at least two hundred twenty (220) volts shall be provided for each mobile home space and shall be weather proof and accessible to the parked mobile home. All electrical installations shall be in compliance with applicable local electrical codes and revised Tennessee Department of Insurance and Banking Regulations, entitled "Regulations Relating to Electrical Installations in the State of Tennessee," and shall satisfy all requirements of the local electric service organization. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-215. Streets.** Widths of various streets within mobile home parks shall be:

One-way, with no on-street parking	11 ft.
One-way, with parallel parking on one side only	18 ft.
One-way, with parallel parking on both side	26 ft.
Two-way, with no on-street parking	20 ft.
Two-way, with parallel parking on one side only	28 ft.
Two-way, with parallel parking on both sides	36 ft.

Streets shall have a compacted gravel base and a prime seal treatment to meet requirement of the Tennessee State Highway Department. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-216. Parking spaces.** Car parking spaces shall be provided in sufficient number to meet the needs of the occupants of the property and their guests without interference with normal movement of traffic. Such facilities shall be provided at the rate of at least one (1) car space for each mobile home lot plus an additional car space for each four (4) lots to provide for guest parking, for two (2) car tenants and for delivery and service vehicles. Car parking spaces shall be located for convenient access to the mobile home space. Where practical, one (1) car space shall be located on each lot and the remainder located in adjacent parking bays. The size of the individual parking spaces shall have a minimum width of not less than ten (10) feet and a length of not less than twenty (20) feet. The parking spaces shall be located so access can be



gained only from internal streets of the mobile home park. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-217. Buffer-strip.** An evergreen buffer strip satisfactory to the mayor shall be planted along those boundaries of the mobile home court that are adjacent to development. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-218. License for mobile home parks.** It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to maintain or operate within the corporate limits of the city, a mobile home park unless such person or persons shall first obtain a license therefor. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-219. License fees for mobile home parks.** The annual license fee for mobile home parks shall be \$100 dollars, plus \$25 for each mobile home lot shown on the approved mobile home park application. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-220. Application for license.** Application for a mobile home park shall be filed with and issued by the city recorder subject to the board of mayor and alderman's or planning commission's (as applicable) approval of the mobile home park plan. Application shall be in writing and signed by the applicant and shall be accompanied with a plan of the proposed mobile home park. The plan shall contain the following information and conform to the following requirements:

- (1) The plan shall be clearly and legibly drawn at a scale not smaller than one hundred (100) feet for one (1) inch;
- (2) Name and address of owner of record;
- (3) Proposed name of park;
- (4) North point and graphic scale and date;
- (5) Vicinity map showing location and acreage of mobile home park;
- (6) Exact boundary lines of the tract by bearing and distance;
- (7) Names of owners of record of adjoining land;
- (8) Existing streets, utilities, easements, and water courses on and adjacent to the tract;
- (9) Proposed design including streets, proposed street names, lot lines with approximate dimensions, easements, land to be reserved or dedicated for public uses, and any land to be used for purposes other than mobile home spaces;
- (10) Provisions for water supply, sewerage and drainage;
- (11) Such information as may be required by the city to enable it to determine if the proposed park will comply with legal requirements; and
- (12) The applications and all accompanying plans and specifications shall be filed in triplicate. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-221. Enforcement.** It shall be the duty of the mayor and such employees and officers he so designates to enforce the terms and provisions of this ordinance. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

**14-222. Violation and penalty.** Any person or corporation who violates the provisions of this ordinance or the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, or fails to perform the reasonable requirements specified by authorized city or county officers and employees after receipt of thirty (30) days written notice of such requirements, shall be subject to a penalty of up to five hundred dollars (\$500) for each offense. Each day a violation is allowed to continue shall constitute a separate offense. (As added by Ord. #102599, Nov. 1999)

## TITLE 15

### MOTOR VEHICLES, TRAFFIC AND PARKING<sup>1</sup>

#### CHAPTER

1. MISCELLANEOUS.
2. EMERGENCY VEHICLES.
3. SPEED LIMITS.
4. TURNING MOVEMENTS.
5. STOPPING AND YIELDING.
6. PARKING.
7. ENFORCEMENT.

#### CHAPTER 1

#### MISCELLANEOUS<sup>2</sup>

#### SECTION

- 15-101. Motor vehicle requirements.
- 15-102. Driving on streets closed for repairs, etc.
- 15-103. Reckless driving.
- 15-104. One-way streets.
- 15-105. Unlaned streets.
- 15-106. Laned streets.
- 15-107. Yellow lines.
- 15-108. Miscellaneous traffic control signs, etc.
- 15-109. General requirements for traffic control signs, etc.
- 15-110. Unauthorized traffic control signs, etc.
- 15-111. Presumption with respect to traffic control signs, etc.
- 15-112. School safety patrols.
- 15-113. Driving through funerals or other processions.

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code reference

Excavations and obstructions in streets, etc.: title 16.

<sup>2</sup>State law references

Under Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-10-307, the following offenses are exclusively state offenses and must be tried in a state court or a court having state jurisdiction: driving while intoxicated or drugged, as prohibited by Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-10-401; failing to stop after a traffic accident, as prohibited by Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-10-101, et seq.; driving while license is suspended or revoked, as prohibited by Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-7-116; and drag racing, as prohibited by Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-10-501.

- 15-114. Clinging to vehicles in motion.
- 15-115. Riding on outside of vehicles.
- 15-116. Backing vehicles.
- 15-117. Projections from the rear of vehicles.
- 15-118. Causing unnecessary noise.
- 15-119. Vehicles and operators to be licensed.
- 15-120. Passing.
- 15-121. Motorcycles, motor driven cycles, motorized bicycles, bicycles, etc.
- 15-122. Delivery of vehicle to unlicensed driver, etc.
- 15-123. Loitering in parking areas.

**15-101. Motor vehicle requirements.** It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any motor vehicle within the corporate limits unless such vehicle is equipped with properly operating muffler, lights, brakes, horn, and such other equipment as is prescribed and required by Tennessee Code Annotated, title 55, chapter 9.

**15-102. Driving on streets closed for repairs, etc.** Except for necessary access to property abutting thereon, no motor vehicle shall be driven upon any street that is barricaded or closed for repairs or other lawful purpose.

**15-103. Reckless driving.** Irrespective of the posted speed limit, no person, including operators of emergency vehicles, shall drive any vehicle in willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property.

**15-104. One-way streets.** On any street for one-way traffic with posted signs indicating the authorized direction of travel at all intersections offering access thereto, no person shall operate any vehicle except in the indicated direction.

**15-105. Unlaned streets.** (1) Upon all unlaned streets of sufficient width, a vehicle shall be driven upon the right half of the street except:

(a) When lawfully overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction.

(b) When the right half of a roadway is closed to traffic while under construction or repair.

(c) Upon a roadway designated and signposted by the city for one-way traffic.

(2) All vehicles proceeding at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing shall be driven as close as practicable to the right hand curb or edge of the roadway, except when overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction or when preparing for a left turn.

**15-106. Laned streets.** On streets marked with traffic lanes, it shall be unlawful for the operator of any vehicle to fail or refuse to keep his vehicle within the boundaries of the proper lane for his direction of travel except when lawfully passing another vehicle or preparatory to making a lawful turning movement.

On two (2) lane and three (3) lane streets, the proper lane for travel shall be the right hand lane unless otherwise clearly marked. On streets with four (4) or more lanes, either of the right hand lanes shall be available for use except that traffic moving at less than the normal rate of speed shall use the extreme right hand lane. On one-way streets either lane may be lawfully used in the absence of markings to the contrary.

**15-107. Yellow lines.** On streets with a yellow line placed to the right of any lane line or center line, such yellow line shall designate a no-passing zone, and no operator shall drive his vehicle or any part thereof across or to the left of such yellow line except when necessary to make a lawful left turn from such street.

**15-108. Miscellaneous traffic control signs, etc.**<sup>1</sup> It shall be unlawful for any pedestrian or the operator of any vehicle to violate or fail to comply with any traffic control sign, signal, marking, or device placed or erected by the state or the city unless otherwise directed by a police officer.

It shall be unlawful for any pedestrian or the operator of any vehicle willfully to violate or fail to comply with the reasonable directions of any police officer.

**15-109. General requirements for traffic control signs, etc.** All traffic control signs, signals, markings, and devices shall conform to the latest revision of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways,<sup>2</sup> published by the U. S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and shall, so far as practicable, be uniform as to type and location throughout the city. This section shall not be construed as being mandatory but is merely directive.

**15-110. Unauthorized traffic control signs, etc.** No person shall place, maintain, or display upon or in view of any street, any unauthorized sign, signal, marking, or device which purports to be or is an imitation of or resembles

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code references

Stop signs, yield signs, flashing signals, pedestrian control signs, traffic control signals generally: §§ 15-505--15-509.

<sup>2</sup>This manual may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

an official traffic control sign, signal, marking, or device or railroad sign or signal, or which attempts to control the movement of traffic or parking of vehicles, or which hides from view or interferes with the effectiveness of any official traffic control sign, signal, marking, or device or any railroad sign or signal.

**15-111. Presumption with respect to traffic control signs, etc.** When a traffic-control sign, signal, marking, or device has been placed, the presumption shall be that it is official and that it has been lawfully placed by the proper city authority.

**15-112. School safety patrols.** All motorists and pedestrians shall obey the directions or signals of school safety patrols when such patrols are assigned under the authority of the chief of police and are acting in accordance with instructions; provided, that such persons giving any order, signal, or direction shall at the time be wearing some insignia and/or using authorized flags for giving signals.

**15-113. Driving through funerals or other processions.** Except when otherwise directed by a police officer, no driver of a vehicle shall drive between the vehicles comprising a funeral or other authorized procession while they are in motion and when such vehicles are conspicuously designated.

**15-114. Clinging to vehicles in motion.** It shall be unlawful for any person traveling upon any bicycle, motorcycle, coaster, sled, roller skates, or any other vehicle to cling to, or attach himself or his vehicle to any other moving vehicle upon any street, alley, or other public way or place.

**15-115. Riding on outside of vehicles.** It shall be unlawful for any person to ride, or for the owner or operator of any motor vehicle being operated on a street, alley, or other public way or place, to permit any person to ride on any portion of such vehicle not designed or intended for the use of passengers. This section shall not apply to persons engaged in the necessary discharge of lawful duties nor to persons riding in the load-carrying space of trucks.

**15-116. Backing vehicles.** The driver of a vehicle shall not back the same unless such movement can be made with reasonable safety and without interfering with other traffic.

**15-117. Projections from the rear of vehicles.** Whenever the load or any projecting portion of any vehicle shall extend beyond the rear of the bed or body thereof, the operator shall display at the end of such load or projection, in such position as to be clearly visible from the rear of such vehicle, a red flag being not less than twelve (12) inches square. Between one-half (1/2) hour after

sunset and one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise, there shall be displayed in place of the flag a red light plainly visible under normal atmospheric conditions at least two hundred (200) feet from the rear of such vehicle.

**15-118. Causing unnecessary noise.** It shall be unlawful for any person to cause unnecessary noise by unnecessarily sounding the horn, "racing" the motor, or causing the "screeching" or "squealing" of the tires on any motor vehicle.

**15-119. Vehicles and operators to be licensed.** It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a motor vehicle in violation of the "Tennessee Motor Vehicle Title and Registration Law" or the "Uniform Motor Vehicle Operators' and Chauffeurs' License Law."

**15-120. Passing.** Except when overtaking and passing on the right is permitted, the driver of a vehicle passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction shall pass to the left thereof at a safe distance and shall not again drive to the right side of the street until safely clear of the overtaken vehicle. The driver of the overtaken vehicle shall give way to the right in favor of the overtaking vehicle on audible signal and shall not increase the speed of his vehicle until completely passed by the overtaking vehicle.

When the street is wide enough, the driver of a vehicle may overtake and pass upon the right of another vehicle which is making or about to make a left turn.

The driver of a vehicle may overtake and pass another vehicle proceeding in the same direction either upon the left or upon the right on a street of sufficient width for four (4) or more lanes of moving traffic when such movement can be made in safety.

No person shall drive off the pavement or upon the shoulder of the street in overtaking or passing on the right.

When any vehicle has stopped at a marked crosswalk or at an intersection to permit a pedestrian to cross the street, no operator of any other vehicle approaching from the rear shall overtake and pass such stopped vehicle.

No vehicle operator shall attempt to pass another vehicle proceeding in the same direction unless he can see that the way ahead is sufficiently clear and unobstructed to enable him to make the movement in safety.

**15-121. Motorcycles, motor driven cycles, motorized bicycles, bicycles, etc.** (1) Definitions. For the purpose of the application of this section, the following words shall have the definitions indicated:

- (a) "Motorcycle." Every motor vehicle having a seat or saddle for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than three (3) wheels in contact with the ground, but excluding a tractor or motorized bicycle.

(b) "Motor-driven cycle." Every motorcycle, including every motor scooter, with a motor capacity that does not exceed five (5) brake horsepower, or with a motor with a cylinder capacity not exceeding one hundred and twenty-five cubic centimeters (125cc);

(c) "Motorized bicycle." A vehicle with two (2) or three (3) wheels, an automatic transmission, and a motor with a cylinder capacity not exceeding fifty (50) cubic centimeters which produces no more than two (2) brake horsepower and is capable of propelling the vehicle at a maximum design speed of no more than thirty (30) miles per hour on level ground.

(2) Every person riding or operating a bicycle, motor cycle, motor driven cycle or motorized bicycle shall be subject to the provisions of all traffic ordinances, rules, and regulations of the city applicable to the driver or operator of other vehicles except as to those provisions which by their nature can have no application to bicycles, motorcycles, motor driven cycles, or motorized bicycles.

(3) No person operating or riding a bicycle, motorcycle, motor driven cycle or motorized bicycle shall ride other than upon or astride the permanent and regular seat attached thereto, nor shall the operator carry any other person upon such vehicle other than upon a firmly attached and regular seat thereon.

(4) No bicycle, motorcycle, motor driven cycle or motorized bicycle shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped.

(5) No person operating a bicycle, motorcycle, motor driven cycle or motorized bicycle shall carry any package, bundle, or article which prevents the rider from keeping both hands upon the handlebars.

(6) No person under the age of sixteen (16) years shall operate any motorcycle, motor driven cycle or motorized bicycle while any other person is a passenger upon said motor vehicle.

(7) Each driver of a motorcycle, motor driven cycle, or motorized bicycle and any passenger thereon shall be required to wear on his head a crash helmet of a type approved by the state's commissioner of safety.

(8) Every motorcycle, motor driven cycle, or motorized bicycle operated upon any public way within the corporate limits shall be equipped with a windshield or, in the alternative, the operator and any passenger on any such motorcycle, motor driven cycle or motorized bicycle shall be required to wear safety goggles, faceshield or glasses containing impact resistant lens for the purpose of preventing any flying object from striking the operator or any passenger in the eyes.

(9) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or ride on any vehicle in violation of this section, and it shall also be unlawful for any parent or guardian knowingly to permit any minor to operate a motorcycle, motor driven cycle or motorized bicycle in violation of this section.



**15-122. Delivery of vehicle to unlicensed driver, etc.**

(1) Definitions. (a) "Adult" shall mean any person eighteen years of age or older.

(b) "Automobile" shall mean any motor driven automobile, car, truck, tractor, motorcycle, motor driven cycle, motorized bicycle, or vehicle driven by mechanical power.

(c) "Custody" means the control of the actual, physical care of the juvenile, and includes the right and responsibility to provide for the physical, mental, moral and emotional well being of the juvenile. "Custody" as herein defined, relates to those rights and responsibilities as exercised either by the juvenile's parent or parents or a person granted custody by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(d) "Drivers license" shall mean a motor vehicle operators license or chauffeurs license issued by the State of Tennessee.

(e) "Juvenile" as used in this chapter shall mean a person less than eighteen years of age, and no exception shall be made for a juvenile who has been emancipated by marriage or otherwise.

(2) It shall be unlawful for any adult to deliver the possession of or the control of any automobile or other motor vehicle to any person, whether an adult or a juvenile, who does not have in his possession a valid motor vehicle operators or chauffeurs license issued by the Department of Safety of the State of Tennessee, or for any adult to permit any person, whether an adult or a juvenile, to drive any motor vehicle upon the streets, highways, roads, avenues, parkways, alleys or public thoroughfares in the City of Bells unless such person has a valid motor vehicle operators or chauffeurs license as issued by the Department of Safety of the State of Tennessee.

(3) It shall be unlawful for any parent or person having custody of a juvenile to permit any such juvenile to drive a motor vehicle upon the streets, highways, roads, parkways, avenues or public ways in the city in a reckless, careless, or unlawful manner, or in such a manner as to violate the ordinances of the city.

**15-123. Loitering in parking areas.** (1) Any person who loiters on, or who drives, parks, stands, or otherwise operates a motor vehicle on, through or within a parking area, driving area or roadway located on privately owned property which is provided for use by patrons customers or employees of business establishments or persons attending church activities upon such property, or adjoining property or for use otherwise in connection with activities conducted upon such property, or adjoining property on which property is posted a sign reading: "Business Parking Only, No Loitering", shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be fined not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00). The sign posted on such private property will be furnished by the City of Bells and erected at the owners' expense.

(2) "Motor vehicle" shall include automobiles, trucks, vans, buses, recreational vehicles, campers, motorcycles, motor bikes, mo-peds, go-carts, all terrain vehicles, dune buggies and all other vehicles propelled by motor.

(3) It shall be unlawful for any person or persons of any age to loiter or be found in or about any of the streets, alleys, parking lots or public places within the City of Bells, Tennessee, after twelve (12) o'clock midnight, except those persons who are on legal business, or missions, of an urgent or emergency nature, or unless they are traversing the streets or highways in ordinary course of traveling through the town in a legal and lawful manner. (Ord. #12-94A, Jan. 1995)

## CHAPTER 2

### EMERGENCY VEHICLES

#### SECTION

- 15-201. Authorized emergency vehicles defined.
- 15-202. Operation of authorized emergency vehicles.
- 15-203. Following emergency vehicles.
- 15-204. Running over fire hoses, etc.

**15-201. Authorized emergency vehicles defined.** Authorized emergency vehicles shall be fire department vehicles, police vehicles, and such ambulances and other emergency vehicles as are designated by the chief of police.

**15-202. Operation of authorized emergency vehicles.**<sup>1</sup> (1) The exemptions herein granted for an authorized emergency vehicle shall apply only when the driver of any such vehicle while in motion sounds an audible signal by bell, siren, or exhaust whistle and when the vehicle is equipped with at least one (1) lighted lamp displaying a red light visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of five hundred (500) feet to the front of such vehicle, except that an authorized emergency vehicle operated as a police vehicle need not be equipped with or display a red light visible from in front of the vehicle.

(2) The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle, when responding to an emergency call, or when in the pursuit of an actual or suspected violator of the law, or when responding to but not upon returning from a fire alarm, may exercise the privileges set forth in this section, subject to the conditions herein stated.

(3) The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle may park or stand, irrespective of the provisions of this title; proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down to ascertain that the intersection is clear; exceed the maximum speed limit and disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning in specified directions so long as he does not endanger life or property.

(4) The foregoing provisions shall not relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons, nor shall such provisions protect the driver from the consequences of his reckless disregard for the safety of others.

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code reference

Operation of other vehicle upon the approach of emergency vehicles:  
§ 15-501.

**15-203. Following emergency vehicles.** No driver of any vehicle shall follow any authorized emergency vehicle apparently travelling in response to an emergency call closer than five hundred (500) feet or drive or park such vehicle within the block where fire apparatus has stopped in answer to a fire alarm.

**15-204. Running over fire hoses, etc.** It shall be unlawful for any person to drive over any hose lines or other equipment of the fire department except in obedience to the direction of a fireman or policeman.

## CHAPTER 3

### SPEED LIMITS

#### SECTION

15-301. In general.

15-302. At intersections.

15-303. In school zones.

**15-301. In general.** It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or drive a motor vehicle upon any highway or street at a rate of speed in excess of thirty (30) miles per hour except where official signs have been posted indicating other speed limits, in which cases the posted speed limit shall apply.

**15-302. At intersections.** It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or drive a motor vehicle through any intersection at a rate of speed in excess of fifteen (15) miles per hour unless such person is driving on a street regulated by traffic control signals or signs which require traffic to stop or yield on the intersecting streets.

**15-303. In school zones.** Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-8-152, the city shall have the authority to enact special speed limits in school zones. Such special speed limits shall be enacted based on an engineering investigation; shall not be less than fifteen (15) miles per hour; and shall be in effect only when proper signs are posted with a warning flasher or flashers in operation. It shall be unlawful for any person to violate any such special speed limit enacted and in effect in accordance with this paragraph.

In school zones where the board of mayor and aldermen has not established special speed limits as provided for above, any person who shall drive at a speed exceeding fifteen (15) miles per hour when passing a school during a recess period when a warning flasher or flashers are in operation, or during a period of forty (40) minutes before the opening hour of a school, or a period of forty (40) minutes after the closing hour of a school, while children are actually going to or leaving school, shall be prima facie guilty of reckless driving.

## CHAPTER 4

TURNING MOVEMENTS

## SECTION

15-401. Generally.

15-402. Right turns.

15-403. Left turns on two-way roadways.

15-404. Left turns on other than two-way roadways.

15-405. U-turns.

**15-401. Generally.** No person operating a motor vehicle shall make any turning movement which might affect any pedestrian or the operation of any other vehicle without first ascertaining that such movement can be made in safety and signaling his intention in accordance with the requirements of the state law.<sup>1</sup>

**15-402. Right turns.** Both the approach for a right turn and a right turn shall be made as close as practicable to the right hand curb or edge of the roadway.

**15-403. Left turns on two-way roadways.** At any intersection where traffic is permitted to move in both directions on each roadway entering the intersection, an approach for a left turn shall be made in that portion of the right half of the roadway nearest the center line thereof and by passing to the right of the intersection of the center lines of the two roadways.

**15-404. Left turns on other than two-way roadways.** At any intersection where traffic is restricted to one direction on one or more of the roadways, the driver of a vehicle intending to turn left at any such intersection shall approach the intersection in the extreme left hand lane lawfully available to traffic moving in the direction of travel of such vehicle and after entering the intersection the left turn shall be made so as to leave the intersection, as nearly as practicable, in the left hand lane lawfully available to traffic moving in such direction upon the roadway being entered.

**15-405. U-turns.** U-turns are prohibited.

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<sup>1</sup>State law reference  
Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-8-143.

**CHAPTER 5****STOPPING AND YIELDING****SECTION**

- 15-501. Upon approach of authorized emergency vehicles.
- 15-502. When emerging from alleys, etc.
- 15-503. To prevent obstructing an intersection.
- 15-504. At railroad crossings.
- 15-505. At "stop" signs.
- 15-506. At "yield" signs.
- 15-507. At traffic control signals generally.
- 15-508. At flashing traffic control signals.
- 15-509. At pedestrian control signals.
- 15-510. Stops to be signaled.

**15-501. Upon approach of authorized emergency vehicles.**<sup>1</sup> Upon the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle making use of audible and/or visual signals meeting the requirements of the laws of this state, the driver of every other vehicle shall immediately drive to a position parallel to, and as close as possible to, the right hand edge or curb of the roadway clear of any intersection and shall stop and remain in such position until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed, except when otherwise directed by a police officer.

**15-502. When emerging from alleys, etc.** The drivers of all vehicles emerging from alleys, parking lots, driveways, or buildings shall stop such vehicles immediately prior to driving onto any sidewalk or street. They shall not proceed to drive onto the sidewalk or street until they can safely do so without colliding or interfering with approaching pedestrians or vehicles.

**15-503. To prevent obstructing an intersection.** No driver shall enter any intersection or marked crosswalk unless there is sufficient space on the other side of such intersection or crosswalk to accommodate the vehicle he is operating without obstructing the passage of traffic in or on the intersecting street or crosswalk. This provision shall be effective notwithstanding any traffic control signal indication to proceed.

**15-504. At railroad crossings.** Any driver of a vehicle approaching a railroad grade crossing shall stop within not less than fifteen (15) feet from the

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code reference

Special privileges of emergency vehicles: title 15, chapter 2.

nearest rail of such railroad and shall not proceed further while any of the following conditions exist:

- (1) A clearly visible electrical or mechanical signal device gives warning of the approach of a railroad train.
- (2) A crossing gate is lowered or a human flagman signals the approach of a railroad train.
- (3) A railroad train is approaching within approximately fifteen hundred (1500) feet of the highway crossing and is emitting an audible signal indicating its approach.
- (4) An approaching railroad train is plainly visible and is in hazardous proximity to the crossing.

**15-505. At "stop" signs.** The driver of a vehicle facing a "stop" sign shall bring his vehicle to a complete stop immediately before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or, if there is no crosswalk, then immediately before entering the intersection, and shall remain standing until he can proceed through the intersection in safety.

**15-506. At "yield" signs.** The drivers of all vehicles shall yield the right of way to approaching vehicles before proceeding at all places where "yield" signs have been posted.

**15-507. At traffic control signals generally.** Traffic control signals exhibiting the words "Go," "Caution," or "Stop," or exhibiting different colored lights successively one at a time, or with arrows, shall show the following colors only and shall apply to drivers of vehicles and pedestrians as follows:

- (1) Green alone, or "Go":
  - (a) Vehicular traffic facing the signal may proceed straight through or turn right or left unless a sign at such place prohibits such turn. But vehicular traffic, including vehicles turning right or left, shall yield the right-of-way to other vehicles and to pedestrians lawfully within the intersection or an adjacent crosswalk at the time such signal is exhibited.
  - (b) Pedestrians facing the signal may proceed across the roadway within any marked or unmarked crosswalk.
- (2) Steady yellow alone, or "Caution":
  - (a) Vehicular traffic facing the signal is thereby warned that the red or "Stop" signal will be exhibited immediately thereafter, and such vehicular traffic shall not enter or be crossing the intersection when the red or "Stop" signal is exhibited.
  - (b) Pedestrians facing such signal shall not enter the roadway unless authorized so to do by a pedestrian "Walk" signal.
- (3) Steady red alone, or "Stop":



(a) Vehicular traffic facing the signal shall stop before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or, if none, then before entering the intersection and shall remain standing until green or "Go" is shown alone. Provided, however, that generally a right turn on a red signal shall be permitted at all intersections within the city, provided that the prospective turning car comes to a full and complete stop before turning and that the turning car yields the right of way to pedestrians and cross traffic traveling in accordance with their traffic signal. However, said turn shall not endanger other traffic lawfully using said intersection. A right turn on red shall be permitted at all intersections except those clearly marked by a "No Turns On Red" sign, which may be erected by the city at intersections which the city decides require no right turns on red in the interest of traffic safety.

(b) Pedestrians facing such signal shall not enter the roadway unless authorized so to do by a pedestrian "Walk" signal.

(4) Steady red with green arrow:

(a) Vehicular traffic facing such signal may cautiously enter the intersection only to make the movement indicated by such arrow but shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians lawfully within a crosswalk and to other traffic lawfully using the intersection.

(b) Pedestrians facing such signal shall not enter the roadway unless authorized so to do by a pedestrian "Walk" signal.

(5) In the event an official traffic control signal is erected and maintained at a place other than an intersection, the provisions of this section shall be applicable except as to those provisions which by their nature can have no application. Any stop required shall be made at a sign or marking on the pavement indicating where the stop shall be made, but in the absence of any such sign or marking the stop shall be made a vehicle length short of the signal.

**15-508. At flashing traffic control signals.** (1) Whenever an illuminated flashing red or yellow signal is used in a traffic sign or signal placed or erected in the city it shall require obedience by vehicular traffic as follows:

(a) Flashing red (stop signal). When a red lens is illuminated with intermittent flashes, drivers of vehicles shall stop before entering the nearest crosswalk at an intersection or at a limit line when marked, or if none, then before entering the intersection, and the right to proceed shall be subject to the rules applicable after making a stop at a stop sign.

(b) Flashing yellow (caution signal). When a yellow lens is illuminated with intermittent flashes, drivers of vehicles may proceed through the intersection or past such signal only with caution.

(2) This section shall not apply at railroad grade crossings. Conduct of drivers of vehicles approaching railroad grade crossings shall be governed by the rules set forth in § 15-504 of this code.

**15-509. At pedestrian control signals.** Wherever special pedestrian control signals exhibiting the words "Walk" or "Wait" or "Don't Walk" have been placed or erected by the city, such signals shall apply as follows:

(1) Walk. Pedestrians facing such signal may proceed across the roadway in the direction of the signal and shall be given the right-of-way by the drivers of all vehicles.

(2) Wait or Don't Walk. No pedestrian shall start to cross the roadway in the direction of such signal, but any pedestrian who has partially completed his crossing on the walk signal shall proceed to the nearest sidewalk or safety zone while the wait signal is showing.

**15-510. Stops to be signaled.** No person operating a motor vehicle shall stop such vehicle, whether in obedience to a traffic sign or signal or otherwise, without first signaling his intention in accordance with the requirements of the state law,<sup>1</sup> except in an emergency.

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<sup>1</sup>State law reference

Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-8-143.

## CHAPTER 6

### PARKING

#### SECTION

- 15-601. Generally.
- 15-602. Angle parking.
- 15-603. Occupancy of more than one space.
- 15-604. Where prohibited.
- 15-605. Loading and unloading zones.
- 15-606. Presumption with respect to illegal parking.

**15-601. Generally.** No person shall leave any motor vehicle unattended on any street without first setting the brakes thereon, stopping the motor, removing the ignition key, and turning the front wheels of such vehicle toward the nearest curb or gutter of the street.

Except as hereinafter provided, every vehicle parked upon a street within this city shall be so parked that its right wheels are approximately parallel to and within eighteen (18) inches of the right edge or curb of the street. On one-way streets where the city has not placed signs prohibiting the same, vehicles may be permitted to park on the left side of the street, and in such cases the left wheels shall be required to be within eighteen (18) inches of the left edge or curb of the street.

Notwithstanding anything else in this code to the contrary, no person shall park or leave a vehicle parked on any public street or alley within the fire limits between the hours of 1:00 A.M. and 5:00 A.M. or on any other public street or alley for more than seventy-two (72) consecutive hours without the prior approval of the chief of police.

Furthermore, no person shall wash, grease, or work on any vehicle, except to make repairs necessitated by an emergency, while such vehicle is parked on a public street.

**15-602. Angle parking.** On those streets which have been signed or marked by the city for angle parking, no person shall park or stand a vehicle other than at the angle indicated by such signs or markings. No person shall angle park any vehicle which has a trailer attached thereto or which has a length in excess of twenty-four (24) feet.

**15-603. Occupancy of more than one space.** No person shall park a vehicle in any designated parking space so that any part of such vehicle occupies more than one such space or protrudes beyond the official markings on the street or curb designating such space unless the vehicle is too large to be parked within a single designated space.

**15-604. Where prohibited.** No person shall park a vehicle in violation of any sign placed or erected by the state or city, nor:

(1) On a sidewalk; provided, however, a bicycle may be parked on a sidewalk if it does not impede the normal and reasonable movement of pedestrian or other traffic.

(2) In front of a public or private driveway;

(3) Within an intersection;

(4) Within fifteen feet (15') of a fire hydrant;

(5) Within a pedestrian crosswalk;

(6) Within twenty feet (20') of a crosswalk at an intersection;

(7) Within thirty feet (30') upon the approach of any flashing beacon, stop sign or traffic control signal located at the side of a roadway;

(8) Within fifty feet (50') of the nearest rail of a railroad crossing;

(9) Within twenty feet (20') of the driveway entrance to any fire station, and on the side of the street opposite the entrance to any fire station within seventy-five feet (75') of such entrance when properly signposted;

(10) Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when stopping, standing or parking would obstruct traffic;

(11) On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street;

(12) Upon any bridge or other elevated structure upon a highway or within a highway tunnel;

(13) In a parking space clearly identified by an official sign as being reserved for the physically handicapped, unless, however, the person driving the vehicle is (a) physically handicapped, or (b) parking such vehicle for the benefit of a physically handicapped person. A vehicle parking in such a space shall display a certificate of identification or a disabled veteran's license plate issued under Tennessee Code Annotated, title 55, chapter 21.

**15-605. Loading and unloading zones.** No person shall park a vehicle for any purpose or period of time other than for the expeditious loading or unloading of passengers or merchandise in any place marked by the city as a loading and unloading zone.

**15-606. Presumption with respect to illegal parking.** When any unoccupied vehicle is found parked in violation of any provision of this chapter, there shall be a prima facie presumption that the registered owner of the vehicle is responsible for such illegal parking.

## CHAPTER 7

### ENFORCEMENT

#### SECTION

- 15-701. Issuance of traffic citations.
- 15-702. Failure to obey citation.
- 15-703. Illegal parking.
- 15-704. Impoundment of vehicles.
- 15-705. Disposal of abandoned motor vehicles.
- 15-706. Violation and penalty.

**15-701. Issuance of traffic citations.**<sup>1</sup> When a police officer halts a traffic violator other than for the purpose of giving a warning, and does not take such person into custody under arrest, he shall take the name, address, and operator's license number of said person, the license number of the motor vehicle involved, and such other pertinent information as may be necessary, and shall issue to him a written traffic citation containing a notice to answer to the charge against him in the city court at a specified time. The officer, upon receiving the written promise of the alleged violator to answer as specified in the citation, shall release such person from custody. It shall be unlawful for any alleged violator to give false or misleading information as to his name or address.

**15-702. Failure to obey citation.** It shall be unlawful for any person to violate his written promise to appear in court after giving said promise to an officer upon the issuance of a traffic citation, regardless of the disposition of the charge for which the citation was originally issued.

**15-703. Illegal parking.** Whenever any motor vehicle without a driver is found parked or stopped in violation of any of the restrictions imposed by this code, the officer finding such vehicle shall take its license number and may take any other information displayed on the vehicle which may identify its user, and shall conspicuously affix to such vehicle a citation for the driver and/or owner to answer for the violation within ten (10) days during the hours and at a place specified in the citation.

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code reference

Issuance of citations in lieu of arrest and ordinance summonses in non-traffic related offenses: title 6, chapter 3.

State law reference

Tennessee Code Annotated, § 7-63-101, et seq.

**15-704. Impoundment of vehicles.** Members of the police department are hereby authorized, when reasonably necessary for the security of the vehicle or to prevent obstruction of traffic, to remove from the streets and impound any vehicle whose operator is arrested or any unattended vehicle which is parked so as to constitute an obstruction or hazard to normal traffic, or which has been parked for more than one (1) hour in excess of the time allowed for parking in any place, or which has been involved in two (2) or more violations of this title for which citation tags have been affixed to the vehicle and the vehicle not removed. Any impounded vehicle shall be stored until the owner or other person entitled thereto claims it, gives satisfactory evidence of ownership or right to possession, and pays all applicable fees and costs of impoundment and storage, or until it is otherwise lawfully disposed of. The fee for impounding a vehicle shall be five dollars (\$5.00) and the storage cost shall be one dollar (\$1.00) for each twenty-four (24) hour period or fraction thereof that the vehicle is stored.

**15-705. Disposal of abandoned motor vehicles.** "Abandoned motor vehicles," as defined in Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-16-103, shall be impounded and disposed of by the police department in accordance with the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 55-16-103 through 55-16-109.

**15-706. Violation and penalty.** Any violation of this title shall be a civil offense punishable as follows:

(1) Traffic citations. Traffic citations shall be punishable by a civil penalty up to fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each separate offense.

(2) Parking citations. For parking violations, excluding handicapped parking violations, the offender may, within ten (10) days, have the charge against him disposed of by paying to the city recorder a fine of three dollars (\$3.00) provided he waives his right to a judicial hearing. If he appears and waives his right to a judicial hearing after ten (10) days but before a warrant is issued for his arrest, his civil penalty shall be five dollars (\$5.00).

**TITLE 16**

**STREETS AND SIDEWALKS, ETC.<sup>1</sup>**

**CHAPTER**

1. MISCELLANEOUS.
2. EXCAVATIONS AND CUTS.

**CHAPTER 1**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**SECTION**

- 16-101. Obstructing streets, alleys, or sidewalks prohibited.
- 16-102. Trees projecting over streets, etc., regulated.
- 16-103. Trees, etc., obstructing view at intersections prohibited.
- 16-104. Projecting signs and awnings, etc., restricted.
- 16-105. Banners and signs across streets and alleys restricted.
- 16-106. Gates or doors opening over streets, alleys, or sidewalks prohibited.
- 16-107. Littering streets, alleys, or sidewalks prohibited.
- 16-108. Obstruction of drainage ditches.
- 16-109. Abutting occupants to keep sidewalks clean, etc.
- 16-110. Parades, etc., regulated.
- 16-111. Operation of trains at crossings regulated.
- 16-112. Animals and vehicles on sidewalks.
- 16-113. Fires in streets, etc.
- 16-114. Moving buildings, mobile homes upon streets.
- 16-115. Violations and penalty.
- 16-116. Placement of advertising signs on city-owned rights-of-way prohibited.

**16-101. Obstructing streets, alleys, or sidewalks prohibited.** No person shall use or occupy any portion of any public street, alley, sidewalk, or right of way for the purpose of storing, selling, or exhibiting any goods, wares, merchandise, or materials.

**16-102. Trees projecting over streets, etc., regulated.** It shall be unlawful for any property owner or occupant to allow any limbs of trees on his property to project over any street or alley at a height of less than fourteen (14) feet or over any sidewalk at a height of less than eight (8) feet.

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code reference

Motor vehicle and traffic regulations: title 15.

**16-103. Trees, etc., obstructing view at intersections prohibited.** It shall be unlawful for any property owner or occupant to have or maintain on his property any tree, shrub, sign, or other obstruction which prevents persons driving vehicles on public streets or alleys from obtaining a clear view of traffic when approaching an intersection.

**16-104. Projecting signs and awnings, etc., restricted.** Signs, awnings, or other structures which project over any street or other public way shall be erected subject to the requirements of the building code.

**16-105. Banners and signs across streets and alleys restricted.** It shall be unlawful for any person to place or have placed any banner or sign across or above any public street or alley except when expressly authorized by the board of mayor and aldermen after a finding that no hazard will be created by such banner or sign.

**16-106. Gates or doors opening over streets, alleys, or sidewalks prohibited.** It shall be unlawful for any person owning or occupying property to allow any gate or door to swing open upon or over any street, alley, or sidewalk except when required by law.

**16-107. Littering streets, alleys, or sidewalks prohibited.** It shall be unlawful for any person to litter, place, throw, track, or allow to fall on any street, alley, or sidewalk any refuse, glass, tacks, mud, or other objects or materials which are unsightly or which obstruct or tend to limit or interfere with the use of such public ways and places for their intended purposes.

**16-108. Obstruction of drainage ditches.** It shall be unlawful for any person to permit or cause the obstruction of any drainage ditch in any public right of way.

**16-109. Abutting occupants to keep sidewalks clean, etc.** The occupants of property abutting on a sidewalk are required to keep the sidewalk clean. Also, immediately after a snow or sleet, such occupants are required to remove all accumulated snow and ice from the abutting sidewalk.

**16-110. Parades, etc., regulated.** It shall be unlawful for any person, club, organization, or other group to hold any meeting, parade, demonstration, or exhibition on the public streets without some responsible representative first securing a permit from the city recorder.

**16-111. Operation of trains at crossings regulated.** No person shall operate any railroad train across any street or alley without giving a warning of its approach as required by state law. It shall also be unlawful to stop a



railroad train so as to block or obstruct any street or alley for a period of more than five (5) consecutive minutes.

**16-112. Animals and vehicles on sidewalks.** It shall be unlawful for any person to ride, lead, or tie any animal, or ride, push, pull, or place any vehicle across or upon any sidewalk in such manner as unreasonably interferes with or inconveniences pedestrians using the sidewalk. It shall also be unlawful for any person knowingly to allow any minor under his control to violate this section.

**16-113. Fires in streets, etc.** It shall be unlawful for any person to set or contribute to any fire in any public street, alley, or sidewalk.

**16-114. Moving buildings, mobile homes upon streets.** It shall be unlawful to move or otherwise transport any building including houses, residential or business trailers and mobile homes whether or not same are occupied, vacated or abandoned, without complying with the provisions of this section. Any person moving or otherwise transporting said buildings shall:

(1) Secure a permit from the recorder upon forms provided for that purpose, for which he shall pay a fee of \$25.00. The permit application shall give the recorder notice of when the building is to be moved, the type of building to be moved, the dimensions of the building and any other pertinent information as to its size, and the route of anticipated movement. The permit shall be good only for the building, time and route described in the permit application.

(2) Provide adequate warning to motorists in the front, rear and where appropriate such as at intersections, at the sides of the building and its transporting vehicles.

(3) In the event of a breakdown or accident, the mover of said building shall provide a watchman to guard the building and such other signalmen as are necessary to provide adequate warning to motorists under paragraph (2) above, to include adequate lights and flares during the hours of darkness.

**16-115. Violations and penalty.** Violations of this chapter shall subject the offender to a penalty of up to five hundred dollars (\$500) for each offense.

**16-116. Placement of advertising signs on city-owned rights-of-way prohibited.** (1) Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) "Public right-of-way" means a strip of land acquired by reservation, dedication, forced dedication, prescription, or condemnation and intended to be utilized as a road, sidewalk or crosswalk, railroad, electric transmission line, oil or gas pipeline, water line, sanitary sewer or storm sewer, or other public use.

(b) "Advertising sign" means any advertising display constructed of metal, plastic, wood, cloth, canvas, light fiber paper, cardboard, or other light materials, with or without frames, permanently or temporarily installed, which is displayed for the making of public announcements, promotion of goods or services for sale or lease, or promotion of an individual or an issue on an election ballot to be voted upon by the city's electorate.

(2) Signs prohibited in public rights-of-way. It shall be unlawful for any person to place or attempt to place, any advertising sign within or upon any public right-of-way within the City of Bells.

(3) Prohibited signs to be removed by the city. The Mayor of Bells or his agent shall direct the prompt removal of all commercial, political, and temporary signs found to be within public rights-of-way or upon public grounds owned by the City of Bells.

(4) Traffic and directional signs. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting agencies of the federal, state, or municipal governments from placing authorized traffic control signs or directional signs in public rights-of-way with the City of Bells. (As added by Ord. #08-02, Sept. 2002)

## CHAPTER 2

### EXCAVATIONS AND CUTS<sup>1</sup>

#### SECTION

- 16-201. Permit required.
- 16-202. Applications.
- 16-203. Fee.
- 16-204. Deposit or bond.
- 16-205. Safety restrictions on excavations.
- 16-206. Restoration of streets, etc.
- 16-207. Insurance.
- 16-208. Time limits.
- 16-209. Supervision.
- 16-210. Driveway curb cuts.
- 16-211. Violation and penalty.

**16-201. Permit required.** It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, corporation, association, or others, including utility districts to make any excavation in any street, alley, or public place, or to tunnel under any street, alley, or public place without having first obtained a permit as herein required, and without complying with the provisions of this chapter; and it shall also be unlawful to violate, or vary from, the terms of any such permit; provided, however, any person maintaining pipes, lines, or other underground facilities in or under the surface of any street may proceed with an opening without a permit when emergency circumstances demand the work to be done immediately and a permit cannot reasonably and practicably be obtained beforehand. The person shall thereafter apply for a permit on the first regular business day on which the office of the city recorder is open for business, and the permit shall be retroactive to the date when the work was begun.

**16-202. Applications.** Applications for such permits shall be made to the city recorder, or such person as he may designate to receive such applications, and shall state thereon the location of the intended excavation or tunnel, the size thereof, the purpose thereof, the person, firm, corporation, association, or others doing the actual excavating, the name of the person, firm, corporation, association, or others for whom the work is being done, and shall

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<sup>1</sup>State law reference

This chapter was patterned substantially after the ordinance upheld by the Tennessee Supreme Court in the case of City of Paris, Tennessee v. Paris-Henry County Public Utility District, 207 Tenn. 388, 340 S.W.2d 885 (1960).

contain an agreement that the applicant will comply with all ordinances and laws relating to the work to be done. Such application shall be rejected or approved by the city recorder within twenty-four (24) hours of its filing.

**16-203. Fee.** The fee for such permits shall be two dollars (\$2.00) for excavations which do not exceed twenty-five (25) square feet in area or tunnels not exceeding twenty-five (25) feet in length; and twenty-five cents (\$0.25) for each additional square foot in the case of excavations, or lineal foot in the case of tunnels; but not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for any permit.

**16-204. Deposit or bond.** No such permit shall be issued unless and until the applicant therefor has deposited with the city recorder a cash deposit. The deposit shall be in the sum of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) if no pavement is involved or seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) if the excavation is in a paved area and shall insure the proper restoration of the ground and, laying of the pavement, if any. Where the amount of the deposit is clearly inadequate to cover the cost of restoration, the city recorder may increase the amount of the deposit to an amount considered by him to be adequate to cover the cost. From this deposit shall be deducted the expense to the city of relaying the surface of the ground or pavement, and of making the refill if this is done by the city or at its expense. The balance shall be returned to the applicant without interest after the tunnel or excavation is completely refilled and the surface or pavement is restored.

In lieu of a deposit the applicant may deposit with the city recorder a surety bond in such form and amount as the city recorder shall deem adequate to cover the costs to the city if the applicant fails to make proper restoration.

**16-205. Safety restrictions on excavations.** Any person, firm, corporation, association, or others making any excavation or tunnel shall do so according to the terms and conditions of the application and permit authorizing the work to be done. Sufficient and proper barricades and lights shall be maintained to protect persons and property from injury by or because of the excavation being made. If any sidewalk is blocked by any such work, a temporary sidewalk shall be constructed and provided which shall be safe for travel and convenient for users.

**16-206. Restoration of streets, etc.** Any person, firm, corporation, association, or others making any excavation or tunnel in or under any street, alley, or public place in this city shall restore the street, alley, or public place to its original condition except for the surfacing, which shall be done by the city but shall be paid for promptly upon completion by such person, firm, corporation, association, or others for which the excavation or tunnel was made. In case of unreasonable delay in restoring the street, alley, or public place, the city recorder shall give notice to the person, firm, corporation, association, or

others that unless the excavation or tunnel is refilled properly within a specified reasonable period of time, the city will do the work and charge the expense of doing the same to such person, firm, corporation, association, or others. If within the specified time the conditions of the above notice have not been complied with, the work shall be done by the city, an accurate account of the expense involved shall be kept, and the total cost shall be charged to the person, firm, corporation, association, or others who made the excavation or tunnel.

**16-207. Insurance.** In addition to making the deposit or giving the bond hereinbefore required to insure that proper restoration is made, each person applying for an excavation permit shall file a certificate of insurance indicating that he is insured against claims for damages for personal injury as well as against claims for property damage which may arise from or out of the performance of the work, whether such performance be by himself, his subcontractor, or anyone directly or indirectly employed by him. Such insurance shall cover collapse, explosive hazards, and underground work by equipment on the street, and shall include protection against liability arising from completed operations. The amount of the insurance shall be prescribed by the city recorder in accordance with the nature of the risk involved; provided, however, that the liability insurance for bodily injury shall not be less than \$100,000 for each person and \$300,000 for each accident, and for property damages not less than \$25,000 for any one (1) accident, and a \$75,000 aggregate.

**16-208. Time limits.** Each application for a permit shall state the length of time it is estimated will elapse from the commencement of the work until the restoration of the surface of the ground or pavement, or until the refill is made ready for the pavement to be put on by the city if the city restores such surface pavement. It shall be unlawful to fail to comply with this time limitation unless permission for an extension of time is granted by the city recorder.

**16-209. Supervision.** The person designated by the board of mayor and aldermen shall from time to time inspect all excavations and tunnels being made in or under any public street, alley, or other public place in the city and see to the enforcement of the provisions of this chapter. Notice shall be given to him at least ten (10) hours before the work of refilling any such excavation or tunnel commences.

**16-210. Driveway curb cuts.** No one shall cut, build, or maintain a driveway across a curb or sidewalk without first obtaining a permit from the recorder. Such a permit will not be issued when the contemplated driveway is to be so located or constructed as to create an unreasonable hazard to pedestrian and/or vehicular traffic. No driveway shall exceed thirty-five (35) feet in width

at its outer or street edge, and when two (2) or more adjoining driveways are provided for the same property, a safety island of not less than ten (10) feet in width at its outer or street edge shall be provided to separate said driveways. Driveway aprons shall not extend into the street.

**16-211. Violation and penalty.** Any violation of this chapter shall constitute a civil offense and shall be punishable by a civil penalty under the general penalty provision of this code, by revocation of permit, or by both penalty and revocation. Each day a violation shall be allowed to continue shall constitute a separate offense.

TITLE 17

REFUSE AND TRASH DISPOSAL

CHAPTER

1. REFUSE COLLECTION.

CHAPTER 1

REFUSE COLLECTION<sup>1</sup>

SECTION

17-101. To be governed by agreement with Waste Management of Tennessee, Inc.

**17-101. To be governed by agreement with Waste Management of Tennessee, Inc.** Refuse collection and disposal within the Town of Bells shall be provided to said town and its inhabitants by the Waste Management of Tennessee, Inc. The rights, powers, duties and obligations of the town and its inhabitants are stated in the agreement between the parties.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Refuse collection fees are billed with the water, sewer and gas bills. For provisions governing those bills see title 18.

<sup>2</sup>The agreement is of record in the office of the recorder.

**TITLE 18****WATER AND SEWERS<sup>1</sup>****CHAPTER**

1. WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION.
2. WASTEWATER REGULATIONS.
3. CROSS CONNECTIONS, AUXILIARY INTAKES, ETC.

**CHAPTER 1****WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION****SECTION**

- 18-101. Board of mayor and aldermen to govern water and sewer system.
- 18-102. Application and scope.
- 18-103. Definitions.
- 18-104. Obtaining service.
- 18-105. Application and contract for service.
- 18-106. Service charges for temporary service.
- 18-107. Connection charges.
- 18-108. Water and sewer main extensions.
- 18-109. Water and sewer main extension variances.
- 18-110. Meters.
- 18-111. Multiple services through a single meter.
- 18-112. Customer billing and payment policy.
- 18-113. Termination or refusal of service.
- 18-114. Termination of service by customer.
- 18-115. Access to customers' premises.
- 18-116. Inspections.
- 18-117. Customer's responsibility for system's property.
- 18-118. Customer's responsibility for violations.
- 18-119. Supply and resale of water.
- 18-120. Unauthorized use of or interference with water supply.
- 18-121. Limited use of unmetered private fire line.
- 18-122. Damages to property due to water pressure.
- 18-123. Liability for cutoff failures.
- 18-124. Restricted use of water.

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code reference  
Refuse disposal: title 17.



18-125. Interruption of service.

18-126. Schedule of rates.

**18-101. Board of mayor and aldermen to govern water and sewer system.** Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, § 7-82-202, the board of mayor and aldermen of the City of Bells shall be the governing body of the water and sewer department.

**18-102. Application and scope.** The provisions of this chapter are a part of all contracts for receiving water and sewer service from the city and shall apply whether the service is based upon contract, agreement, signed application, or otherwise.

**18-103. Definitions.** (1) "Customer" means any person, firm, or corporation who receives water and/or sewer service from the city under either an express or implied contract.

(2) "Service line" shall consist of the pipe line extending from any water or sewer main of the city to private property. Where a meter and meter box are located on private property, the service line shall be construed to include the pipe line extending from the city's water main to and including the meter and meter box.

(3) "Dwelling" means any single structure, with auxiliary buildings, occupied by one or more persons or households for residential purposes.

(4) "Premise" means any structure or group of structures operated as a single business or enterprise, provided, however, the term "premise" shall not include more than one (1) dwelling.

**18-104. Obtaining service.** A formal application for either original or additional service must be made and be approved by the city before connection or meter installation orders will be issued and work performed.

**18-105. Application and contract for service.** Each prospective customer desiring water and/or sewer service will be required to sign a standard form contract and pay a service deposit before service is supplied. The service deposit shall be refundable if and only if the city cannot supply service in accordance with the terms of this chapter. If, for any reason, a customer, after signing a contract for service, does not take such service by reason of not occupying the premises or otherwise, he shall reimburse the city for the expense incurred by reason of its endeavor to furnish such service.

The receipt of a prospective customer's application for service, shall not obligate the city to render the service applied for. If the service applied for cannot be supplied in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, the liability of the city to the applicant shall be limited to the return of any deposit made by such applicant.

**18-106. Service charges for temporary service.** Customers requiring temporary service shall pay all costs for connection and disconnection incidental to the supplying and removing of service in addition to the regular charge for water and/or sewer service.

**18-107. Connection charges.** Service lines will be laid by the city from its mains to the property line at the expense of the applicant for service. The location of such lines will be determined by the city.

Before a new water or sewer service line will be laid by the city, the applicant shall pay a nonrefundable connection charge of \$150.00.

This deposit shall be used to pay the cost of laying such new service line and appurtenant equipment. If such cost exceeds the amount of the deposit, the applicant shall pay to the city the amount of such excess cost when billed therefor. If such cost is less than the deposit the amount of such excess deposit shall be refunded to the customer.

When a service line is completed, the city shall be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of such service line from the main to and including the meter and meter box, and such portion of the service line shall belong to the city. The remaining portion of the service line beyond the meter box (or property line, in the case of sewers) shall belong to and be the responsibility of the customer.

**18-108. Water and sewer main extensions.**<sup>1</sup> Persons desiring water and/or sewer main extensions must pay all of the cost of making such extensions.

For water main extensions cement-lined cast iron pipe, class 150 American Water Works Association Standard (or other construction approved by the board of mayor and aldermen), not less than six (6) inches in diameter shall be used to the dead end of any line and to form loops or continuous lines, so that fire hydrants may be placed on such lines at locations no farther than 1,000 feet from the most distant part of any dwelling structure and no farther than 600 feet from the most distant part of any commercial, industrial, or public building, such measurements to be based on road or street distances. Cement-lined cast iron pipe (or other construction approved by the board of mayor and aldermen) two (2) inches in diameter, to supply dwellings only, may be used to supplement such lines. For sewer main extensions eight-inch pipe of vitrified clay or other construction approved by the board of mayor and aldermen shall be used.

All such extensions shall be installed either by city forces or by other forces working directly under the supervision of the city in accordance with

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code reference

Construction of building sewers: title 18, chapter 2.

plans and specifications prepared by an engineer registered with the State of Tennessee.

Upon completion of such extensions and their approval by the city, such water and/or sewer mains shall become the property of the city. The persons paying the cost of constructing such mains shall execute any written instruments requested by the city to provide evidence of the city's title to such mains. In consideration of such mains being transferred to it, the city shall incorporate said mains as an integral part of the municipal water and sewer systems and shall furnish water and sewer service therefrom in accordance with these rules and regulations, subject always to such limitations as may exist because of the size and elevation of the mains.

**18-109. Water and sewer main extension variances.** Whenever the board of mayor and aldermen is of the opinion that it is to the best interest of the city and its inhabitants to construct a water and/or sewer main extension without requiring strict compliance with the preceding section, such extension may be constructed upon such terms and conditions as shall be approved by the board of mayor and aldermen.

The authority to make water and/or sewer main extensions under the preceding section is permissive only and nothing contained therein shall be construed as requiring the city to make such extensions or to furnish service to any person or persons.

**18-110. Meters.** All meters shall be installed, tested, repaired, and removed only by the city.

No one shall do anything which will in any way interfere with or prevent the operation of a meter. No one shall tamper with or work on a water meter without the written permission of the city. No one shall install any pipe or other device which will cause water to pass through or around a meter without the passage of such water being registered fully by the meter.

**18-111. Multiple services through a single meter.** No customer shall supply water service to more than one dwelling or premise from a single service line and meter without first obtaining the written permission of the city.

Where the city allows more than one dwelling or premise to be served through a single service line and meter, the amount of water used by all the dwellings and premises served through a single service line and meter shall be allocated to each separate dwelling or premise served. The water and charges for each such dwelling or premise thus served shall be computed just as if each such dwelling or premise had received through a separately metered service the amount of water so allocated to it, such computation to be made at the city's applicable water schedule, including the provisions as to minimum bills. The separate charges for each dwelling or premise served through a single service

line and meter shall then be added together, and the sum thereof shall be billed to the customer in whose name the service is supplied.

**18-112. Customer billing and payment policy.** Water and sewer bills shall be rendered monthly and shall designate a standard net payment period for all members of not less than fifteen (15) days after the date of the bill. Failure to receive a bill will not release a customer from payment obligation. There is established for all members a late payment charge not to exceed 10% for any portion of the bill paid after the net payment period.

Payment must be received in the Bells gas and water department no later than 4:30 P.M. on the due date. If the due date falls on Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday, net payment will be accepted if paid on the next business day no later than 4:30 P.M.

If a meter fails to register properly, or if a meter is removed to be tested or repaired, or if water is received other than through a meter, the city reserves the right to render an estimated bill based on the best information available.

**18-113. Termination or refusal of service.** (1) Basis of termination or refusal. The city shall have the right to discontinue water and sewer service or to refuse to connect service for a violation of, or a failure to comply with, any of the following:

- (a) These rules and regulations, including the nonpayment of bills.
- (b) The customer's application for service.
- (c) The customer's contract for service.

The right to discontinue service shall apply to all water and sewer services received through collective single connections or services, even though more than one (1) customer or tenant is furnished services therefrom, and even though the delinquency or violation is limited to only one such customer or tenant.

(2) Termination of service. Reasonable written notice shall be given to the customer before termination of water service according to the following terms and conditions:

- (a) Written notice of termination (cut-off) shall be given to the customer at least three (3) days prior to the scheduled date of termination. The cut-off notice shall specify the reason for the cut-off. If the cut-off notice is for non payment of the bill it shall include:
  - (1) The amount due, including other charges.
  - (2) The last date to avoid service termination.
  - (3) Notification of the customer's right to a hearing prior to service termination, and, in the case of nonpayment of bills, of the availability of special counseling for emergency and hardship cases.

(b) In the case of termination for nonpayment of bills, the employee carrying out the termination procedure will attempt before disconnecting service to contact the customer at the premises in a final effort to collect payment and avoid termination. If the customer is not at home, service may be left connected for one (1) additional day and a further notice left at a location conspicuous to the customer.

(c) Hearings for service termination, including for nonpayment of bills, will be held by appointment at the company office between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. on any business day, or by special request and appointment a hearing may be scheduled outside those hours.

(d) Termination will not be made on any preceding day when Bells gas and water department is scheduled to be closed.

(e) If a customer does not request a hearing, or, in the case of nonpayment of a bill, does not make payment of the bill, or does not otherwise correct the problem that resulted in the notice of termination in a manner satisfactory to Bells gas and water department, the same shall proceed on schedule with service termination.

(f) Service termination for any reason shall be reconnected only after payment of all charges due or satisfactory arrangements for payment have been made, or the correction of the problem that resulted in the termination of service in a manner satisfactory to the water and sewer department, plus the payment of a reconnection charge of \$20.00.

**18-114. Termination of service by customer.** Customers who have fulfilled their contract terms and wish to discontinue service must give at least three (3) days written notice to that effect unless the contract specifies otherwise. Notice to discontinue service prior to the expiration of a contract term will not relieve the customer from any minimum or guaranteed payment under such contract or applicable rate schedule.

When service is being furnished to an occupant of premises under a contract not in the occupant's name, the city reserves the right to impose the following conditions on the right of the customer to discontinue service under such a contract:

(1) Written notice of the customer's desire for such service to be discontinued may be required; and the city shall have the right to continue such service for a period of not to exceed ten (10) days after receipt of such written notice, during which time the customer shall be responsible for all charges for such service. If the city should continue service after such ten (10) day period subsequent to the receipt of the customer's written notice to discontinue service, the customer shall not be responsible for charges for any service furnished after the expiration of the ten (10) day period.

(2) During the ten (10) day period, the occupant of premises to which service has been ordered discontinued by a customer other than such occupant,

may be allowed by the city to enter into a contract for service in the occupant's own name upon the occupant's complying with these rules and regulations with respect to a new application for service.

**18-115. Access to customers' premises.** The city's identified representatives and employees shall be granted access to all customers' premises at all reasonable times for the purpose of reading meters, for testing, inspecting, repairing, removing, and replacing all equipment belonging to the city, and for inspecting customers' plumbing and premises generally in order to secure compliance with these rules and regulations.

**18-116. Inspections.** The city shall have the right, but shall not be obligated, to inspect any installation or plumbing system before water and/or sewer service is furnished or at any later time. The city reserves the right to refuse service or to discontinue service to any premises not in compliance with any special contract, these rules and regulations, or other requirements of the city.

Any failure to inspect or reject a customer's installation or plumbing system shall not render the city liable or responsible for any loss or damage which might have been avoided had such inspection or rejection been made.

**18-117. Customer's responsibility for system's property.** Except as herein elsewhere expressly provided, all meters, service connections, and other equipment furnished by or for the city shall be and remain the property of the city. Each customer shall provide space for and exercise proper care to protect the property of the city on his premises. In the event of loss or damage to such property arising from the neglect of a customer to care for it properly, the cost of necessary repairs or replacements shall be paid by the customer.

**18-118. Customer's responsibility for violations.** Where the city furnishes water and/or sewer service to a customer, such customer shall be responsible for all violations of these rules and regulations which occur on the premises so served. Personal participation by the customer in any such violations shall not be necessary to impose such personal responsibility on him.

**18-119. Supply and resale of water.** All water shall be supplied within the city exclusively by the city, and no customer shall, directly or indirectly, sell, sublet, assign, or otherwise dispose of the water or any part thereof except with written permission from the city.

**18-120. Unauthorized use of or interference with water supply.** No person shall turn on or turn off any of the city's stop cocks, valves, hydrants, spigots, or fire plugs without permission or authority from the city.

**18-121. Limited use of unmetered private fire line.** Where a private fire line is not metered, no water shall be used from such line or from any fire hydrant thereon, except to fight fire or except when being inspected in the presence of an authorized agent of the city.

All private fire hydrants shall be sealed by the city, and shall be inspected at regular intervals to see that they are in proper condition and that no water is being used therefrom in violation of these rules and regulations. When the seal is broken on account of fire, or for any other reason, the customer taking such service shall immediately give the city a written notice of such occurrence.

**18-122. Damages to property due to water pressure.** The city shall not be liable to any customer for damages caused to his plumbing or property by high pressure, low pressure, or fluctuations in pressure in the city's water mains.

**18-123. Liability for cutoff failures.** The city's liability shall be limited to the forfeiture of the right to charge a customer for water that is not used but is received from a service line under any of the following circumstances:

(1) After receipt of at least ten (10) days' written notice to cut off water service, the city has failed to cut off such service.

(2) The city has attempted to cut off a service but such service has not been completely cut off.

(3) The city has completely cut off a service but subsequently the cutoff develops a leak or is turned on again so that water enters the customer's pipes from the city's main.

Except to the extent stated above, the city shall not be liable for any loss or damage resulting from cutoff failures. If a customer wishes to avoid possible damage for cutoff failures, the customer shall rely exclusively on privately owned cutoffs and not on the city's cutoff. Also, the customer (and not the city) shall be responsible for seeing that his plumbing is properly drained and is kept properly drained, after his water service has been cut off.

**18-124. Restricted use of water.** In times of emergencies or in times of water shortage, the city reserves the right to restrict the purposes for which water may be used by a customer and the amount of water which a customer may use.

**18-125. Interruption of service.** The city will endeavor to furnish continuous water and sewer service, but does not guarantee to the customer any fixed pressure or continuous service. The city shall not be liable for any damages for any interruption of service whatsoever.

In connection with the operation, maintenance, repair, and extension of the municipal water and sewer systems, the water supply may be shut off without notice when necessary or desirable, and each customer must be prepared for such emergencies. The city shall not be liable for any damages from such interruption of service or for damages from the resumption of service without notice after any such interruption.

**18-126. Schedule of rates.** All water and sewer service shall be furnished under such rate schedules as the city may from time to time adopt by appropriate ordinance or resolution.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Administrative ordinances and regulations are of record in the office of the city recorder.



## CHAPTER 2

### WASTEWATER REGULATIONS

#### SECTION

- 18-201. Purpose and policy.
- 18-202. Definitions.
- 18-203. Connection to public sewers.
- 18-204. Private domestic wastewater disposal.
- 18-205. Regulation of holding tank waste disposal.
- 18-206. Application for domestic wastewater discharge and industrial wastewater discharge permits.
- 18-207. Discharge regulations.
- 18-208. Industrial user monitoring, inspection reports, records access, and safety.
- 18-209. Enforcement and abatement.
- 18-210. Penalties; costs.
- 18-211. Fees and billing.
- 18-212. Validity.

**18-201. Purpose and policy.** This chapter sets forth uniform requirements for the disposal of wastewater in the service area of the City of Bells, Tennessee, wastewater treatment system. The objectives of this chapter are:

- (1) To protect the public health;
- (2) To provide problem free wastewater collection and treatment service;
- (3) To prevent the introduction of pollutants into the municipal wastewater treatment system, which will interfere with the system operation, which will cause the system discharge to violate its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit or other applicable state requirements, or which will cause physical damage to the wastewater treatment system facilities;
- (4) To provide for full and equitable distribution of the cost of the wastewater treatment system;
- (5) To enable the city to comply with the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, the General Pretreatment Regulations (40 CFR Part 403), and other applicable federal, state laws and regulations;
- (6) To improve the opportunity to recycle and reclaim wastewaters and sludges from the wastewater treatment system.

In meeting these objectives, this chapter provides that all persons in the service area of the city of must have adequate wastewater treatment either in the form of a connection to the municipal wastewater treatment system or, where the system is not available, an appropriate private disposal system. The

chapter also provides for the issuance of permits to system users, for the regulations of wastewater discharge volume and characteristics, for monitoring and enforcement activities; and for the setting of fees for the full and equitable distribution of costs resulting from the operation, maintenance, and capital recovery of the wastewater treatment system and from other activities required by the enforcement and administrative program established herein.

This chapter shall apply to the city and to persons outside the city who are, by contract or agreement with the city users of the municipal wastewater treatment system. Except as otherwise provided herein, the water and sewer superintendent of the city shall administer, implement, and enforce the provisions of this chapter. (Ord. of June 10, 1982)

**18-202. Definitions.** Unless the context specifically indicates otherwise, the following terms and phrases, as used in this chapter, shall have the meanings hereinafter designated:

(1) "Act or the Act." The Federal Water Pollution Control Act, also known as the Clean Water Act, as amended 33 U.S.C. 1251, *et seq.*

(2) "Approval authority." The director in an NPDES state with an approved State Pretreatment Program and the Administrator of the EPA in a non-NPDES state or NPDES state without an Approved State Pretreatment Program.

(3) "Authorized representative of industrial user." An authorized representative of an industrial user may be:

(a) a principal executive officer of at least the level of vice-president, if the industrial user is a corporation;

(b) a general partner or proprietor if the industrial user is a partnership or proprietorship, respectively;

(c) a duly authorized representative of the individual designated above if such representative is responsible for the overall operation of the facilities from which the indirect discharge originates.

(4) "Biochemical oxygen demand (BOD)." The quantity of oxygen utilized in the biochemical oxidation of organic matter under standard laboratory procedure for five (5) days at 20 centigrade expressed in terms of weight and concentration (milligrams per liter (mg/l)).

(5) "Building sewer." A sewer conveying wastewater from the premises of a User to the POTW.

(6) "Categorical standards." The National Categorical Pretreatment Standards or Pretreatment Standard.

(7) "City." The City of Bells or the board of mayor and aldermen, City of Bells, Tennessee.

(8) "Compatible pollutant." Shall mean BOD, suspended solids, pH, fecal coliform bacteria, and such additional pollutants as are now or may in the future be specified and controlled in the city's NPDES permit for its wastewater

treatment works where sewer works have been designed and used to reduce or remove such pollutants.

(9) "Cooling water." The water discharge from any use such as air conditioning, cooling, or refrigeration, or to which the only pollutant added is heat.

(10) "Control authority." The term "control authority" shall refer to the "Approval authority," defined hereinabove; or the board of mayor and aldermen if the city has an approved Pretreatment Program under the provisions of 40 CFR 403.11.

(11) "Customer." Any individual, partnership, corporation, association, or group who receives sewer service from the city under either an express or implied contract requiring payment to the city for such service.

(12) "Direct discharge." The discharge of treated or untreated wastewater directly to the waters of the State of Tennessee.

(13) "Domestic wastewater." Wastewater that is generated by a single family, apartment or other dwelling unit or dwelling unit equivalent or commercial establishment containing sanitary facilities for the disposal of wastewater and used for residential or commercial purposes only.

(14) "Environmental Protection Agency, or EPA." The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, or where appropriate, the term may also be used as a designation for the administrator or other duly authorized official of the said agency.

(15) "Garbage." Solid wastes generated from any domestic, commercial or industrial source.

(16) "Grab sample." A sample which is taken from a waste stream on a one-time basis with no regard to the flow in the waste stream and without consideration of time.

(17) "Holding tank waste." Any waste from holding tanks such as vessels, chemical toilets, campers, trailers, septic tanks, and vacuum-pump tank trucks.

(18) "Incompatible pollutant." Any pollutant which is not a "compatible pollutant" as defined in this section.

(19) "Indirect discharge." The discharge or the introduction of non-domestic pollutants from any source regulated under Section 307(b) or (c) of the Act, (33 U.S.C. 1317), into the POTW (including holding tank waste discharged into the system).

(20) "Industrial user." A source of Indirect Discharge which does not constitute a "discharge of pollutants" under regulations issued pursuant to Section 402, of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1342).

(21) "Interference." The inhibition or disruption of the municipal wastewater processes or operations which contributes to a violation of any requirement of the city's NPDES permit. The term includes prevention of sewage sludge use or disposal by the POTW in accordance with 405 of the Act, (33 U.S.C. 1345) or any criteria, guidelines, or regulations developed pursuant

to the Solid Waste Disposal Act (SWDA), the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, or more stringent state criteria (including those contained in any State sludge management plan prepared pursuant to Title IV of SWDA) applicable to the method of disposal or use employed by the municipal wastewater treatment system.

(22) "National categorical pretreatment standard or pretreatment standard." Any regulation containing pollutant discharge limits promulgated by the EPA in accordance with Section 307(b) and (c) of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1347) which applies to a specific category of industrial users.

(23) "NPDES (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System)." The program for issuing, conditioning, and denying permits for the discharge of pollutants from point sources into navigable waters, the contiguous zone, and the oceans pursuant to Section 402 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended.

(24) "New source." Any source, the construction of which is commenced after the publication of proposed regulations prescribing a Section 307(c) (33 U.S.C. 1317) categorical pretreatment standard which will be applicable to such source, if such standard if thereafter promulgated within 120 days of proposal in the Federal Register. Where the standard is promulgated later than 120 days after proposal, a new source means any source, the construction of which is commenced after the date of promulgation of the standard.

(25) "Person." Any individual, partnership, co-partnership, firm, company, corporation, association, joint stock company, trust, estate, governmental entity or any other legal entity, or their legal representatives, agents, or assigns. The masculine gender shall include the feminine and the singular shall include the plural where indicated by the context.

(26) "pH." The logarithm (base 10) of the reciprocal of the concentration of hydrogen ions expressed in grams per liter of solution.

(27) "Pollution." The man-made or man-induced alteration of the chemical, physical, biological, and radiological integrity of water.

(28) "Pollutant." Any dredged spoil, solid waste, incinerator residue, sewage, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemical wastes, biological materials, radioactive materials, heat, wrecked or discharged equipment, rock, sand, cellar dirt, and industrial, municipal, and agricultural waste discharge into water.

(29) "Pretreatment or treatment." The reduction of the amount of pollutants, the elimination of pollutants, or the alteration of the nature of pollutant properties in wastewater to a less harmful state prior to or in lieu of discharging or otherwise introducing such pollutants into a POTW. The reduction or alteration can be obtained by physical, chemical, biological processes, or process changes or other means, except as prohibited by 40 CFR Section 40.36(d).

(30) "Pretreatment requirements." Any substantive or procedural requirement related to pretreatment other than a national pretreatment standard imposed on an industrial user.

(31) "Publicly owned treatment works (POTW)." A treatment works as defined by Section 212 of the Act, (33 U.S.C. 1292) which is owned in this instance by the city. This definition includes any sewers that convey wastewater to the POTW treatment plant, but does not include pipes, sewers or other conveyances not connected to a facility providing treatment. For the purposes of this chapter, "POTW" shall also include any sewers that convey wastewaters to the POTW from persons outside the city, who are, by contract or agreement with the city users of the city's POTW.

(32) "POTW treatment plant." That portion of the POTW designed to provide treatment to wastewater.

(33) "Shall" is mandatory; "May" is permissive.

(34) "Slug." Any discharge of water, sewage, or industrial waste which in concentration of any given constituent or in quantity of flow exceeds for any period of duration longer than fifteen (15) minutes more than five (5) times the average twenty-four (24) hour concentrations of flows during normal operation or any discharge of whatever duration that causes the sewer to overflow or back up in an objectionable way or any discharge of whatever duration that interferes with the proper operation of the wastewater treatment facilities or pumping stations.

(35) "State." The State of Tennessee.

(36) "Standard industrial classification (SIC)." A classification pursuant to the Standard Industrial Classification Manual issued by the Executive Office of the President, Office of Management and Budget, 1972.

(37) "Storm water." Any flow occurring during or following any form of natural precipitation and resulting therefrom.

(38) "Storm sewer or storm drain." A pipe or conduit which carries storm and surface waters and drainage, but excludes sewage and industrial wastes. It may, however, carry cooling waters and unpolluted waters, upon approval of the superintendent.

(39) "Suspended solids." The total suspended matter that floats on the surface of, or is suspended in, water, wastewater, or other liquids and that is removable by laboratory filtering.

(40) "Superintendent." The person designated by the city to supervise the operation of the publicly owned treatment works and who is charged with certain duties and responsibilities by this chapter, or his duly authorized representative.

(41) "Toxic pollutant." Any pollutant or combination of pollutants listed as toxic in regulations published by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency under the provision of CWA 307(a) or other Acts.

(42) "Twenty-four (24) hour flow proportional composite sample." A sample consisting of several sample portions collected during a 24-hour period

in which the portions of a sample are proportioned to the flow and combined to form a representative sample.

(43) "User." Any person who contributes, causes or permits the contribution of wastewater into the city's POTW.

(44) "Wastewater." The liquid and water-carried industrial or domestic wastes from dwellings, commercial buildings, industrial facilities, and institutions, whether treated or untreated, which is contributed into or permitted to enter the POTW.

(45) "Wastewater treatment systems." Defined the same as POTW.

(46) "Waters of the state." All streams, lakes, ponds, marshes, watercourses, waterways, wells, springs, reservoirs, aquifers, irrigation systems, drainage systems, and other bodies of accumulation of water, surface or underground, natural or artificial, public or private, that are contained within, flow through, or border upon the state or any portion thereof. (Ord. of June 10, 1982)

**18-203. Connection to public sewers.** (1) Requirements for proper wastewater disposal. (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to place, deposit, or permit to be deposited in any unsanitary manner on public or private property within the service area of the city, any human or animal excrement, garbage, or other objectionable waste.

(b) It shall be unlawful to discharge to any waters of the state within the service area of the city any sewage or other polluted waters, except where suitable treatment has been provided in accordance with provisions of this chapter.

(c) Except as herein provided, it shall be unlawful to construct or maintain any privy, privy vault, septic tank, cesspool, or other facility intended or used for the disposal of sewage.

(d) Except as provided in § 18-203(1)(e) below, the owner of all houses, buildings, or properties used for human occupancy, employment, recreation, or other purposes situated within the service area in which there is now located or may in the future be located a public sanitary sewer, is hereby required at his expense to install suitable toilet facilities therein, and to connect such facilities directly with the proper public sewer in accordance with the provisions of the chapter, within sixty (60) days after date of official notice to do so, provided that said public sewer is within five hundred (500) feet of the property line over public access.

(e) The owner of a manufacturing facility may discharge wastewater to the waters of the state provided that he obtains an NPDES permit and meets all requirements of the Federal Clean Water Act, the NPDES permit, and any other applicable local, state, or federal statutes and regulations.

(f) Where a public sanitary sewer is not available under the provisions of § 18-203(1)(d) above, the building sewer shall be connected

to a private sewage disposal system complying with the provisions of § 18-204 of this chapter.

(2) Physical connection public sewer. (a) No person shall uncover, make any connections with or opening into, use, alter, or disturb any public sewer or appurtenance thereof. The city shall make all connections to the public sewer upon the property owner first obtaining a written permit from the superintendent as required by § 18-206 of this chapter.

The permit application shall be supplemented by any plans, specifications or other information considered pertinent in the judgment of the superintendent. A connection fee shall be paid to the city at the time the application is filed.

(b) All costs and expenses incident to the installation, connection, and inspection of the building sewer shall be borne by the owner. The owner shall indemnify the city from any loss or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by the installation of the building sewer.

(c) A separate and independent building sewer shall be provided for every building; except where one building stands at the rear of another on an interior lot and no private sewer is available or can be constructed to the rear building through an adjoining alley, court, yard, or driveway, the building sewer from the front building may be extended to the rear building and the whole considered as one building sewer. Provided, however, that in no case shall the building sewer from the front building to the public sanitary sewer be less than six (6) inches in diameter.

(d) Old building sewers may be used in connection with new buildings only when they are found, on examination and tested by the superintendent to meet all requirements of this chapter. All others may be sealed to the specifications of the superintendent.

(e) Building sewers shall conform to the following requirements:

(i) The minimum size of a building sewer shall be as follows:

Conventional sewer system - Four inches (4").

Small diameter gravity sewer - Two inches (2").

Septic Tank Effluent Pump - One and one quarter inches (1-1/4").

Where the septic tanks becomes an integral part of the collection and treatment system, the minimum size influent line shall be four inches (4") and the minimum size of septic tank shall be 1,000 gallons. Septic tanks shall be constructed of polyethylene and protected from flotation. The city shall have the right, privilege, and authority to locate, inspect, operate, and maintain

septic tanks which are an integral part of the collection and treatment system.

(ii) The minimum depth of a building sewer shall be eighteen inches (18").

(iii) Building sewers shall be laid on the following grades:

Four inch (4") sewers - 1/8 inch per foot.

Two inch (2") sewers - 3/8 inch per foot.

Larger building sewers shall be laid on a grade that will produce a velocity when flowing full of at least 2.0 feet per second.

(iv) Slope and alignment of all building sewers shall be neat and regular.

(v) Building sewers shall be constructed only of ductile iron pipe class 50 or above or polyvinyl chloride pipe SDR-35 for gravity sewers and SDR-21 for pressure sewers. Joints shall be rubber or neoprene "o" ring compression joints. No other joints shall be acceptable.

(vi) A cleanout shall be located five (5) feet outside of the building, one as it crosses the property line and one at each change of direction of the building sewer which is greater than 45 degrees. Additional cleanouts shall be placed not more than seventy-five (75) feet apart in horizontal building sewers of six (6) inch nominal diameter and not more than one hundred (100) feet apart for larger pipes. Cleanouts shall be extended to or above the finished grade level directly above the place where the cleanout is installed. A "Y" (wye) and 1/8 bend shall be used for the cleanout base. Cleanouts shall not be smaller than four (4) inches.

(vii) Connections of building sewers to the public sewer system shall be made only by the city and shall be made at the appropriate existing wyes or tee branch using compression type couplings or collar type rubber joint with stainless steel bands. Where existing wye or tee branches are not available, connections of building services shall be made by either removing a length of pipe and replacing it with a wye or tee fitting using flexible neoprene adapters with stainless steel bands of a type approved by the superintendent. All such connections shall be made gastight and watertight.

(viii) The building sewer may be brought into the building below the basement floor when gravity flow from the building to the sanitary sewer is at a grade of 1/8-inch per foot or more if possible. In cases where basement or floor levels are lower than the ground elevation at the point of connection to the sewer, adequate precautions by installation of check valves or other backflow prevention devices to protect against flooding shall be provided by the owner. In all buildings in which any building



drain is too low to permit gravity flow to the public sewer, sanitary sewage carried by such building drain shall be lifted by a pump and discharged to the building sewer at the expense of the owner.

(ix) The methods to be used in excavating, placing of pipe, jointing, testing, backfilling the trench, or other activities in the construction of a building sewer which have not been described above shall conform to the requirements of the building and plumbing code or other applicable rules and regulations of the city or to the procedures set forth in appropriate specifications of the ASTM and Water Pollution Control Federal Manual of Practice No. 9. Any deviation from the prescribed procedures and materials must be approved by the superintendent before installation.

(x) An installed building sewer shall be gastight and watertight.

(f) All excavations for building sewer installation shall be adequately guarded with barricades and lights so as to protect the public from hazard. Streets, sidewalks, parkways, and other public property disturbed in the course of the work shall be restored in a manner satisfactory to the city.

(g) No person shall make connection of roof downspouts, exterior foundation drains, areaway drains, basement drains, or other sources of surface runoff or groundwater to a building directly or indirectly to a public sanitary sewer.

(3) Inspection of connections. (a) The sewer connection and all building sewers from the building to the public sewer main line shall be inspected before the underground portion is covered, by the superintendent or his authorized representative.

(b) The applicant for discharge shall notify the superintendent when the building sewer is ready for inspection and connection to the public sewer. The connection shall be made under the supervision of the superintendent or his representative.

(4) Maintenance of building sewers. Each individual property owner or user of the POTW shall be entirely responsible for the maintenance which will include repair or replacement of the building sewer as deemed necessary by the superintendent to meet specifications of the city. (Ord. of June 10, 1982, modified)

**18-204. Private domestic wastewater disposal.** (1) Availability.

(a) Where a public sanitary sewer is not available under the provisions of § 18-203(1)(d), the building sewer shall be connected to a private wastewater disposal system complying with the provisions of this section. Provided, however that when a public sanitary sewer becomes available, the building sewer shall be connected to said sewers within sixty (60) days after date of official notice to do so.

(b) Any residence, office, recreational facility, or other establishment used for human occupancy where the building drain is below the elevation to obtain a grade equivalent to 1/8-inch per foot in the building sewer but is otherwise accessible to a public sewer as provided in § 18-203, the owner shall provide a private sewage pumping station as provided in § 18-203(2)(e)(viii).

(c) Where a public sewer becomes available, the building sewer shall be connected to said sewer within sixty (60) days after date of official notice from the city to do so.

(2) Requirements. (a) A private domestic wastewater disposal system may not be constructed within the service area unless and until a certificate is obtained from the superintendent stating that a public sewer is not accessible to the property and no such sewer is proposed for construction in the immediate future. No certificate shall be issued for any private domestic wastewater disposal system employing subsurface soil absorption facilities where the area of the lot is less than one-half (1/2) acre.

(b) Before commencement of construction of a private sewage disposal system the owner shall first obtain written permission from the city and the county health department. The owner shall supply any plans, specifications, and other information as are deemed necessary by the city and the county health department.

(c) A private sewage disposal system shall not be placed in operation until the installation is completed to the satisfaction of the city and the county health department. They shall be allowed to inspect the work at any stage of construction and the owner shall notify the city and the county health department when the work is ready for final inspection, before any underground portions are covered. The inspection shall be made within a reasonable period of time after the receipt of notice by the city and the county health department.

(d) The type, capacity, location, and layout of a private sewage disposal system shall comply with all recommendations of the Department of Health of the State of Tennessee, the city and the county health department. No septic tank or cesspool shall be permitted to discharge to waters of Tennessee.

(e) The owner shall operate and maintain the private sewage disposal facilities in a sanitary manner at all times, at no expense to the city. When the public sewer becomes available, the building sewer, or the septic tank effluent line shall be connected to the public sewer within sixty (60) days of the date of availability and the private sewage disposal system should be cleaned of sludge and if no longer used as a part of the city's treatment system, filled with suitable material.

(f) No statement contained in this chapter shall be construed to interfere with any additional or future requirements that may be imposed by the city. (Ord. of June 10, 1982, modified)

**18-205. Regulation of holding tank waste disposal.** (1) Permit. No person, firm, association or corporation shall clean out, drain, or flush any septic tank or any other type of wastewater or excreta disposal system, unless such person, firm, association, or corporation obtains a permit from the city to perform such acts or services.

Any person, firm, association, or corporation desiring a permit to perform such services shall file an application on the prescribed form. Upon any such application, said permit shall be issued by the superintendent when the conditions of this chapter have been met and providing the superintendent is satisfied the applicant has adequate and proper equipment to perform the services contemplated in a safe and competent manner.

(2) Fees. For each permit issued under the provisions of this chapter the applicant shall agree in writing by the provisions of this section and pay an annual service charge to the city to be set as specified in § 18-211. Any such permit granted shall be for one fiscal year or fraction of the fiscal year, and shall continue in full force and effect from the time issued until the ending of the fiscal year, unless sooner revoked, and shall be nontransferable. The number of the permit granted hereunder shall be plainly painted 3-inch permanent letters on each side of each motor vehicle used in the conduct of the business permitted hereunder.

(3) Designated disposal locations. The superintendent shall designate approved locations for the emptying and cleansing of all equipment used in the performance of the services rendered under the permit herein provided for, and it shall be a violation hereof for any person, firm, association or corporation to empty or clean such equipment at any place other than a place so designated. The superintendent may refuse to accept any truckload of waste at his absolute discretion where it appears that the waste could interfere with the operation of the POTW.

(4) Revocation of permit. Failure to comply with all the provisions of this chapter shall be sufficient cause for the revocation of such permit by the superintendent. The possession within the service area by any person of any motor vehicle equipped with a body type and accessories of a nature and design capable of serving a septic tank of wastewater or excreta disposal system cleaning unit shall be prima facie evidence that such person is engaged in the business of cleaning, draining, or flushing septic tanks or other wastewater or excreta disposal systems within the service area of the City of Bells. (Ord. of June 10, 1982)

**18-206. Application for domestic wastewater discharge and industrial wastewater discharge permits.** (1) Application for discharge of

domestic wastewater. All users or prospective users which generate domestic wastewater shall make application to the superintendent for written authorization to discharge to the municipal wastewater treatment system. Applications shall be required from all new dischargers as well as for any existing discharger desiring additional service. Connection to the city sewer shall not be made until the application is received and approved by the superintendent, the building sewer is installed in accordance with § 18-201 of this chapter and an inspection has been performed by the superintendent or his representative.

The receipt by the city of a prospective customer's application for service shall not obligate the city to render the service. If the service applied for cannot be supplied in accordance with this chapter and the city's rules and regulations and general practice, the connection charge will be refunded in full, and there shall be no liability of the city to the applicant for such service.

(2) Industrial wastewater discharge permits. (a) General requirements. All industrial users proposing to connect to or to contribute to the POTW shall obtain a wastewater discharge permit before connecting to or contributing to the POTW. All existing industrial users connected to or contributing to the POTW shall acquire a permit within 180 days after the effective date of this chapter.

(b) Applications. Applications for wastewater discharge permits shall be required as follows:

(i) Users required to obtain a wastewater discharge permit shall complete and file with the superintendent, an application on a prescribed form accompanied by the appropriate fee. Existing users shall apply for a wastewater contribution permit within 60 days after the effective date of this chapter, and proposed new users shall apply at least 60 days prior to connecting to or contributing to the POTW.

(ii) The application shall be in the prescribed form of the city and shall include, but not be limited to the following information: name, address, and SIC number of applicant; wastewater volume; wastewater constituents and characteristic, including but not limited to those mentioned in §§ 18-207(1) and (2) discharge variations -- daily, monthly, seasonal and 30 minute peaks; a description of all chemicals handled on the premises, each product produced by type, amount, process or processes and rate of production, type and amount of raw materials, number and type of employees, hours of operation, site plans, floor plans, mechanical and plumbing plans and details showing all sewers and appurtenances by size, location and elevation; a description of existing and proposed pretreatment and/or equalization facilities and any other information deemed necessary by the superintendent.

(iii) Any user who elects or is required to construct new or additional facilities for pretreatment shall as part of the application for wastewater discharge permit submit plans, specifications and other pertinent information relative to the proposed construction to the superintendent for approval. Plans and specifications submitted for approval must bear the seal of a professional engineer registered to practice engineering in the State of Tennessee. A wastewater discharge permit shall not be issued until such plans and specifications are approved. Approval of such plans and specifications shall in no way relieve the user from the responsibility of modifying the facility as necessary to produce an effluent acceptable to the city under the provisions of this chapter.

(iv) If additional pretreatment and/or O&M will be required to meet the pretreatment standards, the application shall include the shortest schedule by which the user will provide such additional pretreatment. The completion date in this schedule shall not be later than the compliance date established for the applicable pretreatment standard. For the purpose of this paragraph, "pretreatment standard," shall include either a national pretreatment standard or a pretreatment standard imposed by § 18-207 of this chapter.

(v) The city will evaluate the data furnished by the user and may require additional information. After evaluation and acceptance of the data furnished, the city may issue a wastewater discharge permit subject to terms and conditions provided herein.

(vi) The receipt by the city of a prospective customer's application for wastewater discharge permit shall not obligate the city to render the wastewater collection and treatment service. If the service applied for cannot be supplied in accordance with this chapter or the city's rules and regulations and general practice, the application shall be rejected and there shall be no liability of the city to the applicant of such service.

(vii) The superintendent will act only on applications containing all the information required in this section. Persons who have filed incomplete applications will be notified by the superintendent that the application is deficient and the nature of such deficiency and will be given thirty (30) days to correct the deficiency. If the deficiency is not corrected within thirty (30) days or within such extended period as allowed by the superintendent, the superintendent shall deny the application and notify the applicant in writing of such action.

(c) Permit conditions. Wastewater discharge permits shall be expressly subject to all provisions of this chapter and all other applicable

regulations, user charges and fees established by the city. Permits may contain the following:

- (i) The unit charge or schedule of user charges and fees for the wastewater to be discharged to a community sewer;
- (ii) Limits on the average and maximum rate and time of discharge or requirements and equalization;
- (iii) Requirements for installation and maintenance of inspections and sampling facilities;
- (iv) Specifications for monitoring programs which may include sampling locations, frequency of sampling, number, types, and standards for tests and reporting schedule;
- (v) Compliance schedules;
- (vi) Requirements for submission of technical reports or discharge reports;
- (vii) Requirements for maintaining and retaining plant records relating to wastewater discharge as specified by the city, and affording city access thereto;
- (viii) Requirements for notification of the city of any new introduction of wastewater constituents or any substantial change in the volume or character of the wastewater constituents being introduced into the wastewater treatment system.
- (ix) Requirements for notification of slug discharged;
- (x) Other conditions as deemed appropriate by the city to ensure compliance with this chapter.

(d) Permit modifications. Within nine months of the promulgation of a national categorical pretreatment standard, the wastewater discharge permit of users subject to such standards shall be revised to require compliance with such standard within the time frame prescribed by such standard. A user with an existing wastewater discharge permit shall submit to the superintendent within 180 days after the promulgation of an applicable federal categorical pretreatment standard the information required by §§ 18-206(2)(b)(ii) and (iii). The terms and conditions of the permit may be subject to modification by the superintendent during the term of the permit as limitations or requirements are modified or other just cause exists. The user shall be informed of any proposed changes in this permit at least 30 days prior to the effective date of change. Any changes or new conditions in the permit shall include a reasonable time schedule for compliance.

(e) Permits duration. Permits shall be issued for a specified time period, not to exceed five (5) years. A permit may be issued for a period less than a year or may be stated to expire on a specific date. The user shall apply for permit reissuance a minimum of 180 days prior to the expiration of the user's existing permit.

(f) Permit transfer. Wastewater discharge permits are issued to a specific User for a specific operation. A wastewater discharge permit shall not be reassigned or transferred or sold to a new owner, new user, different premises, or a new or changed operation without the approval of the city. Any succeeding owner or user shall also comply with the terms and conditions of the existing permit.

(g) Revocation of permit. Any permit issued under the provisions of the chapter is subject to be modified suspended, or revoked in whole or in part during its term for cause including, but not limited to, the following:

(i) Violation of any terms or conditions of the wastewater discharge permit or other applicable federal, state, or local law or regulation.

(ii) Obtaining a permit by misrepresentation or failure to disclose fully all relevant facts.

(iii) A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the permitted discharge.

(iv) Intentional failure of a user to accurately report the discharge constituents and characteristics or to report significant changes in plant operations or wastewater characteristics.

(3) Confidential information. All information and data on a User obtained from reports, questionnaire, permit application, permits and monitoring programs and from inspection shall be available to the public or any governmental agency without restriction unless the user specifically requests and is able to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the superintendent that the release of such information would divulge information, processes, or methods of production entitled to protection as trade secrets of the users.

When requested by the person furnishing the report, the portions of a report which might disclose trade secrets or secret processes shall not be made available for inspection by the public, but shall be made available to governmental agencies for use; related to this chapter or the city's or user's NPDES permit. Provided, however, that such portions of a report shall be available for use by the state or any state agency in judicial review or enforcement proceedings involving the person furnishing the report. Wastewater constituents and characteristics will not be recognized as confidential information.

Information accepted by the superintendent as confidential shall not be transmitted to any governmental agency or to the general public by the superintendent until and unless prior and adequate notification is given to the user. (Ord. of June 10, 1982)

**18-207. Discharge regulations.** (1) General discharge prohibitions. No user shall contribute or cause to be contributed, directly or indirectly, any

pollutant or wastewater which will interfere with the operation and performance of the POTW. These general prohibitions apply to all such users of a POTW whether or not the user is subject to national categorical pretreatment standards or any other national, state, or local pretreatment standards or requirements. A user may not contribute the following substances to any POTW:

(a) Any liquids, solids, or gases which by reason of their nature or quantity are, or may be, sufficient either alone or by interaction with other substances to cause fire or explosion or be injurious in any other way to the POTW or to the operation of the POTW. At no time, shall two successive readings on an explosion hazard meter, at the point of discharge into the system (or at any point in the system) be more than five percent (5%) nor any single reading over ten percent (10%) of the lower explosive limit (LEL) of the meter. Prohibited materials include, but are not limited to, gasoline, kerosene, naphtha, benzene, toluene, xylene, ethers, alcohols, ketones, aldehydes, peroxides, chlorates, perchlorates, bromate, carbides, hydrides and sulfides and any other substances which the city, the state or EPA has notified the user is a fire hazard or a hazard to the system.

(b) Solid or viscous substances which may cause obstruction to the flow in a sewer or other interference with the operation of the wastewater treatment facilities but not limited to: grease, garbage with particles greater than one-half inch (1/2") in any dimension, paunch manure, bones, hair, hides, or fleshings, entrails, whole blood, feathers, ashes, cinders, sand, spent lime, stone or marble dust, metal, glass, straw, shavings, grass clippings, rags, spent grains, spent hops, waste paper, wood, plastics, gas, tar, asphalt residues from refining, or processing of fuel or lubricating oil, mud, or glass grinding or polishing wastes.

(c) Any wastewater having a pH less than 5.5 or higher than 9.5 or wastewater having any other corrosive property capable of causing damage or hazard to structures, equipment, and/or personnel of the POTW.

(d) Any wastewater containing any toxic pollutants, chemical elements, or compounds in sufficient quantity, either singly or by interaction with other pollutants, to injure or interfere with any wastewater treatment process, constitute a hazard to humans or animals, create a toxic effect in the receiving waters of the POTW, or to exceed the limitation set forth in a categorical pretreatment standard. A toxic pollutant shall include but not be limited to any pollutant identified pursuant to Section 307(a) of the Act.

(e) Any noxious or malodorous liquids, gases, or solids which either singly or by interaction with other wastes are sufficient to create



a public nuisance, hazard to life, are sufficient to prevent entry into the sewers for maintenance and repair.

(f) Any substance which may cause the POTW's effluent or any other product of the POTW such as residues, sludges, or scums, to be unsuitable for reclamation and reuse or to interfere with the reclamation process. In no case, shall a substance discharged to the POTW cause the POTW to be in non-compliance with sludge use or under Section 405 of the Act; any criteria, guidelines, or regulations affecting sludge use or disposal developed pursuant to the Solid Waste Disposal Act, the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, or state criteria applicable to the sludge management method being used.

(g) Any substances which will cause the POTW to violate its NPDES Permit or the receiving water quality standards.

(h) Any wastewater causing discoloration of the wastewater treatment plant effluent to the extent that the receiving stream water quality requirements would be violated, such as, but not limited to, dye wastes and vegetable tanning solutions.

(i) Any wastewater having a temperature which will inhibit biological activity in the POTW treatment plant resulting in interference, but in no case wastewater with a temperature at the introduction into the sewer system which exceeds 65°C (150° F) or causes the influent at the wastewater plant to exceed 40°C (104° F).

(j) Any pollutants, including oxygen demanding pollutants (BOD, etc.) released at a flow rate and/or pollutant concentration which a user knows or has reason to know will cause interference to the POTW.

(k) Any waters or wastes causing an unusual volume of flow or concentration of waste constituting "slug" as defined herein.

(l) Any waters containing any radioactive wastes or isotopes of such half-life or concentration as may exceed limits established by the superintendent in compliance with applicable state or federal regulations.

(m) Any wastewater which causes a hazard to human life or creates a public nuisance.

(n) Any waters or wastes containing fats, wax, grease, or oil, whether emulsified or not, in excess of one hundred (100) mg/l or containing substances which may solidify or become viscous at temperature between thirty-two (32) or one hundred fifty degrees (150°) F (0 and 65° C).

(o) Any stormwater, surface water, groundwater, roof runoff, subsurface drainage, uncontaminated cooling water, or unpolluted industrial process waters to any sanitary sewer. Stormwater and all other unpolluted drainage shall be discharged to such sewers as are specifically designated as storm sewers, or to a natural outlet approved by the superintendent and the Tennessee Department of Health.

Industrial cooling water or unpolluted process waters may be discharged on approval of the superintendent and the Tennessee Department of Health, to a storm sewer or natural outlet.

(2) Restrictions on wastewater strength. No person or user shall discharge wastewater which exceeds the following set of standards (Table A - User Discharge Restrictions) unless an exception is permitted as provided in this chapter. Dilution of any wastewater discharge for the purpose of satisfying these requirements shall be considered in violation of this chapter.

**Table A - User Discharge Restrictions**

Pollutant	Daily Average* Maximum Concentration (mg/l)	Instantaneous Maximum Concentration (mg/l)
Antimony	5.0	8.0
Arsenic	1.0	1.5
Cadmium	1.0	1.5
Chromium (total)	4.0	7.0
Copper	3.0	5.0
Cyanide	1.0	2.0
Lead	1.0	1.5
Mercury	0.1	0.2
Nickel	3.0	4.5
Pesticides & Herbicides	BDL	1.0
Phenols	10.0	15.0
Selenium	1.0	1.5
Silver	1.0	1.5
Surfactants, as MBAS	25.0	50.0
Zinc	3.0	5.0

\*Based on 24-hour flow proportional composite samples.  
BDL = Below Detectable Limits

(3) Protection of treatment plant influent. The superintendent shall monitor the treatment works influent for each parameter in the following table. (Table B - Plant Protection Criteria). industrial users shall be subject to reporting and monitoring requirements regarding these parameters as set forth in this chapter. In the event that the influent at the POTW reaches or exceeds the levels established by this table, the superintendent shall initiate technical studies to determine the cause of the influent violation and shall recommend to the city the necessary remedial measures, including, but not limited to, recommending the establishment of new or revised pre-treatment levels for these parameters. The superintendent shall also recommend changes to any of these criteria in the event that: the POTW effluent standards are changed, there are changes in any applicable law or regulation affecting same, or changes are needed for more effective operation of the POTW.

**Table B-Plant Protection Criteria**

Parameter	Maximum Concentration (mg/l) (24 Hour Flow) Proportional Composite Sample	Maximum Instantaneous Concentration (mg/l) Grab Sample
Aluminum		
dissolved (AL)	3.00	6.0
Antimony (Sb)	0.50	1.0
Arsenic (As)	0.06	0.12
Barium (Ba)	2.50	5.0
Boron	0.4	0.8
Cadmium (Cd)	0.004	0.008
Chromium Hex	0.06	0.12
Cobalt	0.03	0.06
Copper (Cu)	0.16	0.32
Cyanide (CN)	0.03	0.06
Fluoride (F)	0.6	1.2
Iron (Fe)	3.0	6.0
Lead (Pb)	0.10	0.2
Manganese (Mn)	0.1	0.2
Mercury (Hg)	0.025	0.05
Nickel (Ni)	0.15	0.30
Pesticides & Herbicides	0.001	0.002
Phenols	1.00	2.0
Selenium (Se)	0.01	0.02
Silver (Ag)	0.05	0.1
Sulfide	25.0	40.0
Zinc (Zn)	.03	0.6
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN)	45.00	90.00
Oil & Grease	50.00	100.00
MBAS	5.00	10.0
BOD	220	350
COD	440	700
Suspended Solids	220	350

(4) Federal categorical pretreatment standards. Upon the promulgation of the federal categorical pretreatment standards for a particular industrial subcategory, the federal standard, if more stringent than limitations

imposed under this chapter for sources in that subcategory, shall immediately supersede the limitations imposed under this chapter. The superintendent shall notify all affected users of the applicable reporting requirements under 40 CFR, Section 403.12.

(5) Right to establish more restrictive criteria. No statement in this chapter is intended or may be construed to prohibit the superintendent from establishing specific wastewater discharge criteria more restrictive where wastes are determined to be harmful or destructive to the facilities of the POTW or to create a public nuisance, or to cause the discharge of the POTW to violate effluent or stream quality standards, or to interfere with the use or handling of sludge, or to pass through the POTW resulting in a violation of the NPDES permit, or to exceed industrial pretreatment standards for discharge to municipal wastewater treatment systems as imposed or as may be imposed by the Tennessee Department of Health and/or the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

(6) Special Agreements. Nothing in this section shall be construed so as to prevent any special agreement or arrangement between the city and any user of the wastewater treatment system whereby wastewater of unusual strength or character is accepted into the system and specially treated subject to any payments or user charges as may be applicable. The making of such special agreements or arrangements between the city and the user shall be strictly limited to the capability of the POTW to handle such wastes without interfering with unit operations or sludge use and handling or allowing the pass through of pollutants which would result in a violation of the NPDES permit. No special agreement or arrangement may be made without documentation by the industry of the user of good management practice in the reduction of wastewater volume and strength.

(7) Exceptions to discharge criteria.

(a) Application for exception. Non-residential users of the POTW may apply for a temporary exception to the prohibited and restricted wastewater discharge criteria list in § 18-207(1) and 18-207(2) of this chapter. Exceptions can be granted according to the following guidelines.

The superintendent shall allow applications for temporary exceptions at any time. However, the superintendent shall not accept an application if the applicant has submitted the same or substantially similar application within the preceding year and the same has been denied by the city.

All applications for an exception shall be in writing, and shall contain sufficient information for evaluation of each of the factors to be considered by the city in its review of the application.

(b) Conditions. All exceptions granted under this paragraph shall be temporary and subject to revocation at any time by the superintendent upon reasonable notice.

The user requested the exception must demonstrate to the superintendent that he is making a concentrated and serious effort to maintain high standards of operation control and housekeeping levels, etc., so that discharges to the POTW are being minimized. If negligence is found, permits will be subject to termination. The user requesting the exception must demonstrate that compliance with stated concentration and quantity standards is technically or economically infeasible and the discharge, if excepted, will not:

- (i) Interfere with the normal collection and operation of the wastewater treatment system.
- (ii) Limit the sludge management alternatives available or increase the cost of providing adequate sludge treatment.
- (iii) Pass through the POTW in quantities and/or concentrations that would cause the POTW to violate its NPDES permit.

The user must show that the exception, if granted, will not cause the discharger to violate its enforce federal pretreatment standards unless the exception is granted under the provisions of the applicable pretreatment regulations.

A surcharge shall be applied to any exception granted under this subsection. These surcharges shall be applied for that concentration of the pollutant for which the variance has been granted in excess of the concentration stipulated in this chapter based on the average daily flow of the user.

(c) Review of application by the superintendent. All applications for an exception shall be reviewed by the superintendent. If the application does not contain sufficient information for complete evaluation, the superintendent shall notify the applicant of the deficiencies and request additional information. The applicant shall have thirty (30) days following notification by the superintendent to correct such deficiencies. This thirty (30) day period may be extended by the city upon application, the superintendent shall evaluate same within thirty (30) days and shall submit his recommendations to the city at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

(d) Review of application by the city. The city shall review and evaluate all applications for exceptions and shall take into account the following factors:

- (i) Whether or not the applicant is subject to a National Pretreatment Standard containing discharge limitations more stringent than these in this chapter and grant an exception only if such exception may be granted within limitations of applicable federal regulations;
- (ii) Whether or not the exception would apply to discharge of a substance classified as a toxic substance under

regulations promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency under the provisions of section 307(a) of the Act (33 U.S.C. 1317), and then grant an exception only if such exception may be granted within the limitations of applicable federal regulations;

(iii) Whether or not the granting of an exception would create conditions that would reduce the effectiveness of the treatment works taking into consideration the concentration of said pollutant in the wastewater treatment system's influent and the design capability of the treatment system;

(iv) The cost of pretreatment or other types of control techniques which would be necessary for the user to achieve effluent reduction, but prohibitive costs alone shall not be the basis for granting an exception;

(v) The age of equipment and industrial facilities involved to the extent that such factors affect the quality or quantity of wastewater discharge;

(vi) The process employed by the user and process changes available which would affect the quality or quantity of wastewater discharge;

(vii) The engineering aspects of various types of pretreatment or other control techniques available to the user to improve the quality or quantity of wastewater discharge.

(8) Accidental discharges.

(a) Protection from accidental discharge. All industrial users shall provide such facilities and institute such procedures as are reasonably necessary to prevent or minimize the potential for accidental discharge into the POTW of waste regulated by this chapter from liquid or raw material storage areas, from truck and rail car loading and unloading areas, from in-plant transfer or processing and materials handling areas, and from diked areas or holding ponds of any waste regulated by this chapter. Detailed plans showing the facilities and operating procedures shall be submitted to the superintendent before the facility is constructed.

The review and approval of such plans and operating procedures will in no way relieve the user from the responsibility of modifying the facility to provide the protection necessary to meet the requirements of this chapter.

(b) Notification of accidental discharge. Any person causing or suffering from any accidental discharge shall immediately notify the superintendent (or designated official) in person, by the telephone to enable countermeasures to be taken by the superintendent to minimize damage to the POTW, the health and welfare of the public, and the environment.

This notification shall be followed, within five (5) days of the date of occurrence, by a detailed written statement describing the cause of the accidental discharge and the measures being taken to prevent future occurrence.

Such notification shall not relieve the user of liability for any expense, loss, or damage to the POTW, fish kills, or any other damage to person or property; nor shall such notification relieve the user of any fines, civil penalties, or other liability which may be imposed by this chapter or state or federal law.

(c) Notice to employees. A notice shall be permanently posted on the user's bulletin board or other prominent place advising employees whom to call in the event of a dangerous discharge. Employers shall ensure that all employees who may cause or suffer such a dangerous discharge to occur are advised of the emergency notification procedure. In lieu of placing notices on bulletin boards, the users may submit an approved SPIC. Each user shall annually certify to the superintendent compliance with this paragraph. (Ord. of June 10, 1982, modified)

**18-208. Industrial user monitoring, inspection reports, records access, and safety.** (1) Monitoring facilities. The installation of a monitoring facility shall be required for all industrial users. A monitoring facility shall be a manhole or other suitable facility approved by the superintendent.

When in the judgment of the superintendent, there is a significant difference in wastewater constituents and characteristics produced by different operations of a single user the superintendent may require that separate monitoring facilities be installed for each separate source of discharge.

Monitoring facilities that are required to be installed shall be constructed and maintained at the user's expense. The purpose of the facility is to enable inspection, sampling and flow measurement of wastewater produced by a user. If sampling or metering equipment is also required by the superintendent, it shall be provided and installed at the user's expense.

The monitoring facility will normally be required to be located on the user's premises outside of the building. The superintendent may, however, when such a location would be impractical or cause undue hardship on the user, allow the facility to be constructed in the public street right-of-way with the approval of the public agency having jurisdiction of that right-of-way and located so that it will not be obstructed by landscaping or parked vehicles.

There shall be ample room in or near such sampling manhole or facility to allow accurate sampling and preparation of samples for analysis. The facility, sampling, and measuring equipment shall be maintained at all times in a safe and proper operating condition at the expenses of the user.

(2) Inspection and sampling. The city shall inspect the facilities of any User to ascertain whether the purpose of this chapter is being met and all



requirements are being complied with. Persons or occupants of premises where wastewater is created or discharged shall allow the city or their representative ready access at all reasonable times to all parts of the premises for the purpose of inspection, sampling, records examination or in the performance of any of their duties. The city, approval authority and EPA shall have the right to set up on the user's property such devices as are necessary to conduct sampling inspection, compliance monitoring and/or metering operations. Where a user has security measures in force which would require proper identification and clearance before entry into their premises, the User shall make necessary arrangements with their security guards so that upon presentation of suitable identification, personnel from the city, approval authority and EPA will be permitted to enter, without delay, for the purposes of performing their specific responsibility.

(3) Compliance date report. Within 180 days following the date for final compliance with applicable pretreatment standards or, in the case of a new source, following commencement of the introduction of wastewater into the POTW, any user subject to pretreatment standards and requirements shall submit to the superintendent a report indicating the nature and concentration of all pollutants in the discharge from the regulated process which are limited by pretreatment standards and Requirements and the average and maximum daily flow for these process units in the user facility which are limited by such pretreatment standards or requirements. The report shall state whether the applicable pretreatment standards or requirements are being met on a consistent basis and, if not, what additional O&M and/or pretreatment is necessary to bring the user into compliance with the applicable pretreatment standards or requirements. This statement shall be signed by an authorized representative of the industrial user, and certified to by a professional engineer registered to practice engineering in Tennessee.

(4) Periodic compliance reports. (a) Any user subject to a pretreatment standard, after the compliance date of such pretreatment standard, or, in the case of a new source, after commencement of the discharge into the POTW, shall submit to the superintendent during the months of June and December, unless required more frequently in the pretreatment standard or by the superintendent, a report indicating the nature and concentration of pollutants in the effluent which are limited by such pretreatment standards and requirements.

In addition, this report shall include a record of all daily flows which during the reporting period exceeded the average daily flow. At the discretion of the superintendent and in consideration of such factors as local high or low flow rates, holidays, budget cycles, etc., the superintendent may agree to alter the months during which the above reports are to be submitted.

(b) The superintendent may impose mass limitations on users where the imposition of mass limitations are appropriate. In such cases,

the report required by subparagraph (a) of this paragraph shall indicate the mass of pollutants regulated by pretreatment standards in the effluent of the user.

(c) The reports required by this section shall contain the results of sampling and analysis of the discharge, including the flow and the nature and concentration or production and mass where requested by the superintendent of pollutants contained therein which are limited by the applicable pretreatment standards. The frequency of monitoring shall be prescribed in the wastewater discharge permit or the pretreatment standard. All analysis shall be performed in accordance with procedures established by the administrator pursuant to Section 304(g) of the Act and contained in 40 CFR, Part and amendments thereto. Sampling shall be performed in accordance with techniques approved by the superintendent.

(5) Maintenance of records. Any industrial user subject to the reporting requirements established in this section shall maintain records of all information resulting from any monitoring activities required by this section. Such records shall include for all samples:

- (a) The date, exact place, method, and time of sampling and the names of the persons taking the samples;
- (b) The dates analyses were performed;
- (c) Who performed the analyses;
- (d) The analytical techniques/methods used; and
- (e) The results of such analyses.

Any industrial user subject to the reporting requirement established in this section shall be required to retain for a minimum of three (3) years all records of monitoring activities and results (whether or not such monitoring activities are required by this section) and shall make such records available for inspection and copying by the superintendent, Director of the Division of Water Quality Control, Tennessee Department of Health or the Environmental Protection Agency. This period of retention shall be extended during the course of any unresolved litigation regarding the industrial user or when requested by the superintendent, the approval authority, or the Environmental Protection Agency.

(6) Safety. While performing the necessary work on private properties, the superintendent or duly authorized employees of the city shall observe all safety rules applicable to the premises established by the company and the company shall be held harmless for injury or death to the city employees and the city shall indemnify the company against loss or damage to its property by city employees and against liability claims and demands for personal injury or property damage asserted against the company and growing out of the monitoring and sampling operation, except as such may be caused by negligence or failure of the company to maintain safe conditions. (Ord. of June 19, 1982, modified)

**18-209. Enforcement and abatement.** (1) Issuance of cease and desist orders. When the superintendent finds that a discharge of wastewater has taken place in violation of prohibitions or limitations of this chapter, or the provisions of a wastewater discharge permit, the superintendent shall issue an order to cease and desist, and direct that these persons not complying with such prohibitions, limits requirements, or provisions to:

- (a) Comply immediately;
- (b) Comply in accordance with a time schedule set forth by the superintendent;
- (c) Take appropriate remedial or preventive action in the event of a threatened violation; or
- (d) Surrender the applicable user's permit if ordered to do so after a show cause hearing.

Failure of the superintendent to issue a cease and desist order to a violating user shall not in any way relieve the user from any consequences of a wrongful or illegal discharge.

(2) Submission of time schedule. When the superintendent finds that a discharge of wastewater has been taking place in violation of prohibitions or limitations prescribed in this chapter, or wastewater source control requirements, effluent limitations of pretreatment standards, or the provisions of a wastewater discharge permit, the superintendent shall require the user to submit for approval, with such modifications as it deems necessary, a detailed time schedule of specific actions which the user shall take in order to prevent or correct a violation of requirements. Such schedule shall be submitted to the superintendent within 30 days of the issuance of the cease and desist order.

(3) Show cause hearing. (a) The city may order any user who causes or allows an unauthorized discharge to enter the POTW to show cause before the board of mayor and aldermen why the proposed enforcement action should not be taken. A notice shall be served on the User specifying the time and place of a hearing to be held by the board of mayor and aldermen regarding the violation, the reasons why the action is to be taken, the proposed enforcement action, and directing the user to show cause before the board of mayor and aldermen why the proposed enforcement action should not be taken. The notice of the hearing shall be served personally or by registered or certified mail (return receipt requested) at least ten (10) days before the hearing.

(b) The board of mayor and aldermen may itself conduct the hearing and take the evidence, or the board of mayor and aldermen may appoint a person to:

- (i) Issue in the name of the board of mayor and aldermen notice of hearings requesting the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of evidence relevant to any matter involved in such hearings;
- (ii) Take the evidence;

(iii) Transmit a report of the evidence and hearing, including transcripts and other evidence, together with recommendations to the board of mayor and aldermen for action thereon.

(c) At any hearing held pursuant to this chapter, testimony taken must be under oath and recorded. The transcript, so recorded, will be made available to any member of the public or any party to the hearing upon payment of reproduction costs.

(d) After the board of mayor and aldermen or the appointed persons have reviewed the evidence, it/they may issue an order to the user responsible for the discharge directing that, following a specified time period, the sewer service be discontinued unless adequate treatment facilities, devices or other related appurtenances shall have been installed on existing treatment facilities, and that these devices or other related appurtenances are properly operated. Further orders and directives as are necessary and appropriate may be issued.

(4) Legal action. If any person discharges sewage, industrial wastes, or other wastes into the city's wastewater disposal system contrary to the provisions of this chapter, federal or state pretreatment requirements, or any order of the city, the city attorney may commence an action for appropriate legal and/or equitable relief in a court of competent jurisdiction. (5)

Emergency termination of service. The superintendent may suspend the wastewater treatment service and/or a wastewater contribution permit when such suspension is necessary, in the opinion of the city, in order to stop an actual or threatened discharge which presents or may present an imminent or substantial endangerment to the health or welfare of persons, to the environment, causes Interference to the POTW or causes the city to violate any condition of its NPDES Permit.

Any person notified of a suspension of the wastewater treatment service and/or the wastewater contribution permit shall immediately stop or eliminate the contribution. In the event of a failure of the person to comply voluntarily with the suspension order, the city shall take such steps as deemed necessary including immediate severance of the sewer connection, to prevent or minimize damage to the POTW system or endangerment to any individuals. The city shall reinstate the wastewater contribution permit and/or the wastewater treatment service upon proof of the elimination of the non-complying discharge. A detailed written statement submitted by the user describing the causes of the harmful contribution and the measures taken to prevent any future occurrence shall be submitted to the city within 15 days of the date of occurrence.

(6) Public nuisance. Discharges or wastewater in any manner in violation of this chapter or of any order issued by the board of mayor and aldermen or superintendent as authorized by this chapter is hereby declared a public nuisance and shall be corrected or abated as directed by the board of

mayor and aldermen. Any person creating a public nuisance shall be subject to the provisions of the city code or ordinances governing such nuisance.

(7) Correction of violation and collection of costs. In order to enforce the provisions of this chapter, the superintendent shall correct any violation hereof. The cost of such correction shall be added to any sewer service charge payable by the person violating this chapter or the owner or tenant of the property upon which the violation occurs, and the city shall have such remedies for the collection of such costs as it has for the collection of sewer service charges.

(8) Damage to facilities. When a discharge of wastes causes an obstruction, damage, or any other physical or operational impairment to facilities, the superintendent shall assess a charge against the user for the work required to clean or repair the facility and add such charge to the user's sewer service charge.

(9) Civil liabilities. Any person or user who intentionally or negligently violates any provision of this chapter, requirements, or conditions set forth in permit duly issued, or who discharges wastewater which causes pollution or violates any cease and desist order, prohibition, effluent limitation, national standard or performance, pretreatment, or toxicity standard, shall be liable civilly.

The city shall sue for such damage in any court of competent jurisdiction. (Ord. of June 10, 1982, modified)

**18-210. Penalties; costs.** (1) Civil penalties. Any user who is found to have violated an order of the board of mayor and aldermen or the superintendent, or who willfully or negligently failed to comply with any provision of this chapter, and the order, rules, regulations and permits issued hereunder, shall be fined not less than two hundred fifty and 00/100 dollars (\$250.00) for each offense. Each day of which a violation shall occur or continue shall be deemed a separate and distinct offense.

(2) Costs recoverable. In addition to the penalties provided herein, the city may recover reasonable attorney's fees, engineering fees, court costs, court reporters' fees and other expenses of litigation by appropriate suit at law against the person found to have violated this chapter or the orders, rules, regulations, and permits issued hereunder. (Ord. of June 10, 1982, modified)

**18-211. Fees and billing.** (1) Purpose. It is the purpose of this chapter to provide for the equitable recovery of costs from user's of the city's wastewater treatment system including costs of operation, maintenance, administration, bond service costs, capital improvements, depreciation, and equitable cost recovery of EPA administered federal wastewater grants.

(2) Types of charges and fees. The charges and fees as established in the city's schedule of charges and fees may include but are not limited to:

- (a) Inspection fee and tapping fee;

- (b) Fees for applications for discharge;
- (c) Sewer use charges;
- (d) Surcharge fees;
- (e) Industrial wastewater discharge permit fees;
- (f) Fees for industrial discharge monitoring; and
- (g) Other fees as the city may deem necessary.

(3) Fees for application for discharge. A fee may be charged when a user or prospective user makes application for discharge as required by § 18-206 of this chapter.

(4) Inspection fee and tapping fee. An inspection fee and tapping fee for the building sewer installation shall be paid to the city's sewer department in the time the application is filed. Fees shall cover the costs of inspecting new and/or existing plumbing within subject building establishments as well as inspection of building sewers, property sewers, and sewer service lines and connections to the public sewers. The inspection fee and tapping fee shall be set by the board of mayor and aldermen.

(5) Sewer user charges. (a) Classification of users. Users of the wastewater system shall be classified into two (2) general classes or categories depending upon the user's contribution of wastewater loads; each class user being identified as follows:

(1) Class I: Those users whose average biochemical oxygen demand is two hundred fifty milligrams per liter (250 mg/l) by weight or less, and whose suspended solids discharge is two hundred fifty milligrams per liter (250 mg/l) by weight or less.

(2) Class II: Those users whose average biochemical oxygen demand exceeds two hundred fifty milligrams per liter concentration (250 mg/l) by weight and whose suspended solids exceeds two hundred fifty milligrams per liter concentration (250 mg/l).

(b) Determination of costs. The board of mayor and aldermen shall establish monthly rates and charges for the use of the wastewater system and for the services supplied by the wastewater system. Said charges shall be based upon the cost categories of administration costs, including billing and accounting costs; operation and maintenance costs of the wastewater collection and treatment system; and debt service costs.

(1) All users who fall under Class I pay a single unit charge expressed as dollars per 1,000 gallons of water purchased (\$/1,000 gallons) with the unit charge being determined in accordance with the following formula:

$$C_i = \frac{T.S.C.}{V_t}$$

Where:

$C_i$  = the Class I total unit cost in 1,000 gallons

T.S.C. = the total operation and maintenance, administration, and debt service determined by yearly budget projections.

$V_t$  = the total volume of wastewater contribution from all users per year as determined from projections from one city fiscal year to the next.

(2) All users who fall within the Class II classification shall all pay the same base unit charge per 1,000 gallons of water purchased as for the Class I users and in addition shall pay a surcharge rate on the excessive amounts of biochemical oxygen demand and suspended solids in direct proportion to the actual discharge quantities.

(3) The volume of water purchased which is used in the calculation of sewer user charges may be adjusted by the superintendent if a user purchases a significant volume of water for a consumptive use and does not discharge it to the public sewers (i.e. filling swimming pools, industrial heating, and humidifying equipment, etc.). The user shall be responsible for documenting the quantity of waste discharged to the public sewer.

(4) When either or both the total suspended solids or biochemical oxygen demand quantities discharged into the POTW is in excess of those described in paragraph (5) (a), above, thus being classified as Class II users, the following formula shall be used to compute the appropriate user charge:

$$C_u = V_c V_u + B_c B_u + S_c S_u$$

Where:

$C_u$  = Total user charge per unit of time

$V_c$  = Total cost for transportation and treatment of a unit of wastewater volume.

$V_u =$  Volume contribution per unit of time.

$B_c =$  Total cost for treatment of a unit of biochemical oxygen demand (BOD)

$B_u =$  Total BOD contribution for a user per unit of time.

$S_c =$  Total cost of treatment of a unit of suspended solids.

$s_u =$  Total suspended solids contribution from a user per unit of time.

(6) Surcharge fees. If it is determined by the city that the discharge or other loading parameters or wastewater substances are creating excessive operation and maintenance costs within the wastewater system, whether collection or treatment, then the monetary effect of such a parameter or parameters shall be borne by the discharge of such parameters in proportion to the amount of discharge.

(7) Industrial wastewater discharge permit fees. A fee may be charged for the issuance of an industrial wastewater discharge fee in accordance with § 18-206 of this chapter.

(8) Fees for industrial discharge monitoring. Fees may be collected from industrial users having pretreatment or other discharge requirements to compensate the city for the necessary compliance monitoring and other administrative duties of the pretreatment program.

(9) Billing. The billing for normal domestic wastewater services shall consist of monthly billing in accordance with the rates specified by the city, subject to net and gross rates. (Ord. of June 10, 1982)

**18-212. Validity.** This chapter and its provisions shall be valid for all service areas, regions, and sewage works under the jurisdiction of the city.



## CHAPTER 3

### CROSS CONNECTIONS, AUXILIARY INTAKES, ETC.<sup>1</sup>

#### SECTION

- 18-301. Definitions.
- 18-302. Standards.
- 18-303. Construction, operation, and supervision.
- 18-304. Statement required.
- 18-305. Inspections required.
- 18-306. Right of entry for inspections.
- 18-307. Correction of existing violations.
- 18-308. Use of protective devices.
- 18-309. Unpotable water to be labeled.
- 18-310. Violations.

**18-301. Definitions.** The following definitions and terms shall apply in the interpretation and enforcement of this chapter:

(1) "Public water supply." The waterworks system furnishing water to the city for general use and which supply is recognized as the public water supply by the Tennessee Department of Health.

(2) "Cross connection." Any physical arrangement whereby the public water supply is connected, directly or indirectly, with any other water supply system, whether sewer, drain, conduit, pool, storage reservoir, plumbing fixture, or other device which contains, or may contain, contaminated water, sewage, or other waste or liquid of unknown or unsafe quality which may be capable of imparting contamination to the public water supply as a result of backflow. Bypass arrangements, jumper connections, removable sections, swivel or change-over devices through which, or because of which, backflow could occur are considered to be cross connections;

(3) "Auxiliary intake." Any piping connection or other device whereby water may be secured from a source other than that normally used.

(4) "Bypass." Any system of piping or other arrangement whereby the water may be diverted around any part or portion of a water purification plant.

(5) "Interconnection." Any system of piping or other arrangement whereby the public water supply is connected directly with a sewer, drain, conduit, pool, storage reservoir, or other device which does or may contain sewage or other waste or liquid which would be capable of imparting contamination to the public water supply.

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<sup>1</sup>Municipal code reference

Plumbing and related codes: title 12.

(6) "Person." Any and all persons, natural or artificial, including any individual, firm, or association, and any municipal or private corporation organized or existing under the laws of this or any other state or country.

**18-302. Standards.** The municipal public water supply is to comply with Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 68-221-701 through 68-221-720 as well as the Rules and Regulations for Public Water Supplies, legally adopted in accordance with this code, which pertain to cross connections, auxiliary intakes, bypasses, and interconnections, and establish an effective ongoing program to control these undesirable water uses.

**18-303. Construction, operation, and supervision.** It shall be unlawful for any person to cause a cross connection to be made, or allow one to exist for any purpose whatsoever, unless the construction and operation of same have been approved by the Tennessee Department of Health and the operation of such cross connection, auxiliary intake, bypass or interconnection is at all times under the direct supervision of the superintendent or his representative.

**18-304. Statement required.** Any person whose premises are supplied with water from the public water supply and who also has on the same premises a separate source of water supply, or stores water in an uncovered or unsanitary storage reservoir from which the water stored therein is circulated through a piping system, shall file with the superintendent a statement of the non-existence of unapproved or unauthorized cross connections, auxiliary intakes, bypasses, or interconnections. Such statement shall also contain an agreement that no cross connection, auxiliary intake, bypass, or interconnection will be permitted upon the premises.

**18-305. Inspections required.** It shall be the duty of the superintendent to cause inspections to be made of all properties served by the public water supply where cross connections with the public water supply are deemed possible. The frequency of inspections and reinspection, based on potential health hazards involved, shall be established by the superintendent and as approved by the Tennessee Department of Health.

**18-306. Right of entry for inspections.** The superintendent or his authorized representative shall have the right to enter, at any reasonable time, any property served by a connection to the public water supply for the purpose of inspecting the piping system or systems therein for cross connections, auxiliary intakes, bypasses, or interconnections. On request, the owner, lessee, or occupant of any property so served shall furnish to the inspection agency any pertinent information regarding the piping system or systems on such property. The refusal of such information or refusal of access, when requested, shall be deemed evidence of the presence of cross connections.

**18-307. Correction of existing violations.** Any person who now has cross connections, auxiliary intakes, bypasses, or interconnections in violation of the provisions of this chapter shall be allowed a reasonable time within which to comply with the provisions of this chapter. After a thorough investigation of existing conditions and an appraisal of the time required to complete the work, the amount of time shall be designated by the superintendent of the waterworks.

The failure to correct conditions threatening the safety of the public water system as prohibited by this chapter and the Tennessee Code Annotated, § 68-221-711, within a reasonable time and within the time limits set by the superintendent of the waterworks shall be grounds for denial of water service. If proper protection has not been provided after a reasonable time, the utility shall give the customer legal notification that water service is to be discontinued and shall physically separate the public water supply from the customer's on-site piping system in such a manner that the two systems cannot again be connected by an unauthorized person.

Where cross connections, interconnections, auxiliary intakes, or bypasses are found that constitute an extreme hazard of immediate concern of contaminating the public water system, the management of the water supply shall require that immediate corrective action be taken to eliminate the threat to the public water system. Immediate steps shall be taken to disconnect the public water supply from the on-site piping system unless the imminent hazard(s) is (are) corrected immediately.

**18-308. Use of protective devices.** Where the nature of use of the water supplied a premises by the water department is such that it is deemed

(1) impractical to provide an effective air-gap separation,  
(2) that the owner and/or occupant of the premises cannot, or is not willing, to demonstrate to the official in charge of the water supply, or his designated representative, that the water use and protective features of the plumbing are such as to propose no threat to the safety or potability of the water supply,

(3) that the nature and mode of operation within a premises are such that frequent alterations are made to the plumbing,

(4) there is a likelihood that protective measures may be subverted, altered, or disconnected, the superintendent of the waterworks of the city or his designated representative, shall require the use of an approved protective device on the service line serving the premises to assure that any contamination that may originate in the customer's premises is contained therein. The protective device shall be a reduced pressure zone type backflow preventer approved by the Tennessee Department of Health as to manufacture, model, and size. The method of installation of backflow protective devices shall be approved by the superintendent of the waterworks of the city prior to installation and shall

comply with the criteria set forth by the Tennessee Department of Health. The installation shall be at the expense of the owner or occupant of the premises.

Personnel of the municipal public water supply shall have the right to inspect and test the device or devices on an annual basis or whenever deemed necessary by the superintendent of the waterworks or his designated representative. Water service shall not be disrupted to test the device without the knowledge of the occupant of the premises.

Where the use of water is critical to the continuance of normal operations or protection of life, property, or equipment, duplicate units shall be provided to avoid the necessity of discontinuing water service to test or repair the protective device or devices. Where it is found that only one unit has been installed and the continuance of service is critical, the superintendent of the waterworks shall notify, in writing, the occupant of the premises of plans to discontinue water service and arrange for a mutually acceptable time to test and/or repair the device. The superintendent shall require the occupant of the premises to make all repairs indicated promptly, to keep the unit(s) working properly, and the expense of such repairs shall be borne by the owner or occupant of the premises. Repairs shall be made by qualified personnel acceptable to the superintendent of waterworks.

The failure to maintain backflow prevention devices in proper working order shall be grounds for discontinuing water service to a premises. Likewise, the removal, bypassing, or altering of the protective devices or the installation thereof so as to render the devices ineffective shall constitute grounds for discontinuance of water service. Water service to such premises shall not be restored until the customer has corrected or eliminated such conditions or defects to the satisfaction of the superintendent of waterworks.

**18-309. Unpotable water to be labeled.** In order that the potable water supply made available to premises served by the public water supply shall be protected from possible contamination as specified herein, any water outlet which could be used for potable or domestic purposes and which is not supplied by the potable system must be labeled in a conspicuous manner as:

WATER UNSAFE

FOR DRINKING

The minimum acceptable sign shall have black letters at least one-inch high located on a red background.

**18-310. Violations.** The requirements contained herein shall apply to all premises served by the city water system whether located inside or outside the corporate limits and are hereby made a part of the conditions required to be met for the city to provide water services to any premises. Such action, being

essential for the protection of the water distribution system against the entrance of contamination which may render the water unsafe healthwise, or otherwise undesirable, shall be enforced rigidly without regard to location of the premises, whether inside or outside the corporate limits.

Any person who neglects or refuses to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter shall be subject to a penalty of one hundred dollars (\$100) for each offense. Each day a violation is allowed to occur shall be a separate offense.

**TITLE 19**

**ELECTRICITY AND GAS**

**CHAPTER**

1. ELECTRICITY.
2. GAS.

**CHAPTER 1**

**ELECTRICITY**

**SECTION**

19-101. To be furnished by Gibson County Electrical Cooperative.

**19-101. To be furnished by Gibson County Electrical Cooperative.**  
Electricity shall be provided to the City of Bells and its inhabitants by the Gibson County Electrical Cooperative. The rights, powers, duties, and obligations of the City of Bells and its inhabitants, are stated in the agreements between the parties.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>The agreements are of record in the office of the recorder.

## CHAPTER 2

### GAS

#### SECTION

- 19-201. Board of mayor and aldermen to govern gas system.
- 19-202. Application and scope.
- 19-203. Definitions.
- 19-204. Application and contract for service.
- 19-205. Obtaining service.
- 19-206. Service charges for temporary service.
- 19-207. Connection charges.
- 19-208. Gas main extensions.
- 19-209. Gas main extension variances.
- 19-210. Meters.
- 19-211. Multiple services through a single meter.
- 19-212. Customer billing and payment policy.
- 19-213. Termination or refusal of service.
- 19-214. Termination of service by customer.
- 19-215. Access to customer's premises.
- 19-216. Inspections.
- 19-217. Customer's responsibility for system's property.
- 19-218. Customer's responsibility for violations.
- 19-219. Supply and resale of gas.
- 19-220. Unauthorized use of or interference with gas supply.
- 19-221. Damages to property due to gas pressure.
- 19-222. Liability for cutoff failures.
- 19-223. Restricted use of gas.
- 19-224. Interruption of service.
- 19-225. Schedule of rates.

**19-201. Board of mayor and aldermen to govern gas system.** Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, § 7-82-202, the board of mayor and aldermen of the City of Bells shall be the governing body of the gas department.

**19-202. Application and scope.** The provisions of this chapter are a part of all contracts for receiving gas service from the city and shall apply whether the service is based upon contract, agreement, signed application, or otherwise.

**19-203. Definitions.** (1) "Customer" means any person, firm, or corporation who receives gas service from the city under either an express or implied contract.

(2) "Service line" shall consist of the pipe line extending from any gas main of the city to private property.

Where a meter and meter box are located on private property, the service line shall be construed to include the pipe line extending from the city's gas main to and including the meter and meter box.

(3) "Dwelling" means any single structure, with auxiliary buildings, occupied by one or more persons or households for residential purposes.

(4) "Premise" means any structure or group of structures operated as a single business or enterprise, provided, however, the term "premise" shall not include more than one (1) dwelling.

**19-204. Application and contract for service.** Each prospective customer desiring gas service will be required to sign a standard form contract and pay a service deposit before service is supplied. The service deposit shall be refundable if and only if the city cannot supply service in accordance with the terms of this chapter. If, for any reason, a customer, after signing a contract for service, does not take such service by reason of not occupying the premises or otherwise, he shall reimburse the city for the expense incurred by reason of its endeavor to furnish the service.

The receipt of a prospective customer's application for service, regardless of whether or not accompanied by a deposit, shall not obligate the city to render the service applied for. If the service applied for cannot be supplied in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and general practice, the liability of the city to the applicant shall be limited to the return of any deposit made by such applicant.

**19-205. Obtaining service.** A formal application for either original or additional service must be made and be approved by the city before connection or meter installation orders will be issued and work performed.

**19-206. Service charges for temporary service.** Customers requiring temporary service shall pay all costs for connection and disconnection incidental to the supplying and removing of service in addition to the regular charge for gas service.

**19-207. Connection charges.** Service lines will be laid by the city from its mains to the property line at the expense of the applicant for service. The location of such lines will be determined by the city.

Before a new gas service line will be laid by the city, the applicant shall make a connection deposit of \$100.00.

This deposit shall be used to pay the cost of laying such new service line and appurtenant equipment. If such cost exceeds the amount of the deposit, the applicant shall pay to the city the amount of such excess cost when billed



therefor. If such cost is less than the deposit the amount of such excess deposit shall be refunded to the customer.

When a service line is completed, the city shall be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of such service line from the main to and including the meter and meter box, and such portion of the service line shall belong to the city. The remaining portion of the service line beyond the meter box shall belong to and be the responsibility of the customer.

**19-208. Gas main extensions.** Persons desiring gas main extensions must pay all of the cost of making such extensions. All such extensions shall be installed either by municipal forces or by other forces working directly under the supervision of the city in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by an engineer registered with the State of Tennessee.

Upon completion of such extensions and their approval by the city, such gas mains shall become the property of the city. The persons paying the cost of constructing such mains shall execute any written instruments requested by the city to provide evidence of the city's title to such mains. In consideration of such mains being transferred to it, the city shall incorporate the mains as an integral part of the municipal gas system and shall furnish gas service therefrom in accordance with these rules and regulations.

**19-209. Gas main extension variances.** Whenever the board of mayor and aldermen is of the opinion that it is to the best interest of the city and its inhabitants to construct a gas main extension without requiring strict compliance with the preceding section, such extension may be constructed upon such terms and conditions as shall be approved by the board of mayor and aldermen.

The authority to make gas main extensions under the preceding section is permissive only and nothing contained therein shall be construed as requiring the city to make such extensions or to furnish service to any person or persons.

**19-210. Meters.** All meters shall be installed, tested, repaired, and removed only by the city.

No one shall do anything which will in any way interfere with or prevent the operation of a meter. No one shall tamper with or work on a gas meter without the written permission of the city. No one shall install any pipe or other device which will cause gas to pass through or around a meter without the passage of such gas being registered fully by the meter.

**19-211. Multiple services through a single meter.** No customer shall supply gas service to more than one dwelling or premise from a single service line and meter without first obtaining the written permission of the city.

Where the city allows more than one dwelling or premise to be served through a single service line and meter, the amount of gas used by all the

dwellings and premises served through a single service line and meter shall be allocated to each separate dwelling or premise served. The gas and charges for each such dwelling or premise thus served shall be computed just as if each such dwelling or premise had received through a separately metered service the amount of gas so allocated to it, such computation to be made at the city's applicable gas schedule, including the provisions as to minimum bills. The separate charges for each dwelling or premise served through a single service line and meter shall then be added together, and the sum thereof shall be billed to the customer in whose name the service is supplied.

**19-212. Customer billing and payment policy.** Gas bills shall be rendered monthly and shall designate a standard net payment period for all members of not less than 15 days after the date of the bill. Failure to receive a bill will not release a customer from payment obligation. There is established for all members a late payment charge not to exceed 10% for any portion of the bill paid after the net payment period.

Payment must be received in the gas department no later than 4:30 P.M. on the due date. If the due date falls on Saturday, Sunday, or a holiday net payment will be accepted if paid on the next business day no later than 4:30 P.M.

If a meter fails to register properly, or if a meter is removed to be tested or repaired, or if gas is received other than through a meter, the city reserves the right to render an estimated bill based on the best information available.

**19-213. Termination or refusal of service.** (1) Basis of termination or refusal. The city shall have the right to discontinue gas service or to refuse to connect service for a violation of, or a failure to comply with, any of the following:

- (a) These rules and regulations, including the nonpayment of bills.
- (b) The customer's application for service.
- (c) The customer's contract for service.

Such right to discontinue service shall apply to all gas services received through collective single connections or services, even though more than one (1) customer or tenant is furnished services therefrom, and even though the delinquency or violation is limited to only one such customer or tenant.

(2) Termination of service. Reasonable written notice shall be given to the customer before termination of gas service according to the following terms and conditions:

- (a) Written notice of termination (cutoff) shall be given to the customer at least three (3) days prior to the scheduled date of termination. The cutoff notice shall specify the reason for the cut-off and
  - (i) The amount due, including other charges.
  - (ii) The last date to avoid service termination.

(iii) Notification of the customer's right to a hearing prior to service termination, and, in the case of nonpayment of bills, of the availability of special counseling for emergency and hardship cases.

(b) In the case of termination for nonpayment of bill, the employee carrying out the termination procedure will attempt before disconnecting service to contact the customer at the premises in a final effort to collect payment and avoid termination. If a customer is not at home, service may be left connected for one (1) additional day and a further notice left at a location conspicuous to the customer.

(c) Hearings for service termination, including for nonpayment of bills, will be held by appointment at the company office between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. on any business day, or by special request and appointment a hearing may be scheduled outside those hours.

(d) Termination will not be made on any preceding day when the Bells Gas & Water Department is scheduled to be closed.

(e) If a customer does not request a hearing, or, in the case of nonpayment of a bill, does not make payment of the bill, or does not otherwise correct the problem that resulted in the notice of termination in a manner satisfactory to the gas department, the same shall proceed on schedule with service termination.

(f) Service termination for any reason shall be reconnected only after the payment of all charges due or satisfactory arrangements for payment have been made or the correction of the problem that resulted in the termination of service in a manner satisfactory to the gas department, plus the payment of a reconnection charge of \$5.00 if the reconnection is made during regular business hours, or \$10.00 if the reconnection is made after regular business hours.

**19-214. Termination of service by customer.** Customers who have fulfilled their contract terms and wish to discontinue service must give at least three (3) days written notice to that effect unless the contract specifies otherwise. Notice to discontinue service prior to the expiration of a contract term will not relieve the customer from any minimum or guaranteed payment under such contract or applicable rate schedule.

When service is being furnished to an occupant of premises under a contract not in the occupant's name, the city reserves the right to impose the following conditions on the right of the customer to discontinue service under such a contract:

(1) Written notice of the customer's desire for such service to be discontinued may be required; and the city shall have the right to continue such service for a period of not to exceed ten (10) days after receipt of such written notice, during which time the customer shall be responsible for all charges for

such service. If the city should continue service after such ten (10) day period subsequent to the receipt of the customer's written notice to discontinue service, the customer shall not be responsible for charges for any service furnished after the expiration of such ten (10) day period.

(2) During such ten (10) day period, or thereafter, the occupant of premises to which service has been ordered discontinued by a customer other than such occupant, may be allowed by the city to enter into a contract for service in the occupant's own name upon the occupant's complying with these rules and regulations with respect to a new application for service.

**19-215. Access to customers' premises.** The city's identified representatives and employees shall be granted access to all customers' premises at all reasonable times for the purpose of reading meters, for testing, inspecting, repairing, removing, and replacing all equipment belonging to the city, and for inspecting customers' gas plumbing and premises generally in order to secure compliance with these rules and regulations.

**19-216. Inspections.** The city shall have the right, but shall not be obligated, to inspect any installation or gas plumbing system before gas service is furnished or at any later time. The city reserves the right to refuse service or to discontinue service to any premises not in compliance with any special contract, these rules and regulations, or other requirements of the city.

Any failure to inspect or reject a customer's installation or gas plumbing system shall not render the city liable or responsible for any loss or damage which might have been avoided had such inspection or rejection been made.

**19-217. Customer's responsibility for system's property.** Except as herein elsewhere expressly provided, all meters, service connections, and other equipment furnished by or for the city shall be and remain the property of the city. Each customer shall provide space for and exercise proper care to protect the property of the city on his premises. In the event of loss or damage to such property arising from the neglect of a customer to care for it properly, the cost of necessary repairs or replacements shall be paid by the customer.

**19-218. Customer's responsibility for violations.** Where the city furnishes gas service to a customer, such customer shall be responsible for all violations of these rules and regulations which occur on the premises so served. Personal participation by the customer in any such violations shall not be necessary to impose such personal responsibility on him.

**19-219. Supply and resale of gas.** All gas shall be supplied within the city exclusively by the city, and no customer shall, directly or indirectly, sell, sublet, assign, or otherwise dispose of the gas or any part thereof except with written permission from the city.

**19-220. Unauthorized use of or interference with gas supply.** No person shall turn on or turn off any of the city's gas, valves, or controls without permission or authority from the city.

**19-221. Damages to property due to gas pressure.** The city shall not be liable to any customer for damages caused to his gas plumbing or property by high pressure, low pressure, or fluctuations in pressure in the city's gas mains.

**19-222. Liability for cutoff failures.** The city's liability shall be limited to the forfeiture of the right to charge a customer for gas that is not used but is received from a service line under any of the following circumstances:

(1) After receipt of at least ten (10) days' written notice to cut off a gas service, the city has failed to cut off such service.

(2) The city has attempted to cut off a service but such service has not been completely cut off.

(3) The city has completely cut off a service but subsequently the cutoff develops a leak or is turned on again so that gas enters the customer's pipes from the city's main.

Except to the extent stated above, the city shall not be liable for any loss or damage resulting from cutoff failures. If a customer wishes to avoid possible damage for cutoff failures, the customer shall rely exclusively on privately owned cutoffs and not on the city's cutoff.

**19-223. Restricted use of gas.** In times of emergencies or in times of gas shortage, the city reserves the right to restrict the purposes for which gas may be used by a customer and the amount of gas which a customer may use.

**19-224. Interruption of service.** The city will endeavor to furnish continuous gas service, but does not guarantee to the customer any fixed pressure or continuous service. The city shall not be liable for any damages for any interruption of service whatsoever.

In connection with the operation, maintenance, repair, and extension of the municipal gas system, the gas supply may be shut off without notice when necessary or desirable, and each customer must be prepared for such emergencies. The city shall not be liable for any damages from such interruption of service or for damages from the resumption of service without notice after any such interruption.

**19-225. Schedule of rates.** All gas service shall be furnished under such rate schedules as the city may from time to time adopt by appropriate ordinance or resolution.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Administrative ordinances and regulations are of record in the office of the city recorder.

**TITLE 20**

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**[RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE]**

ORDINANCE NO. 05249A

**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND ENACTING A COMPREHENSIVE CODIFICATION AND REVISION OF THE ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BELLS, TENNESSEE.**

WHEREAS some of the ordinances of the City of Bells are obsolete, and

WHEREAS some of the other ordinances of the city are inconsistent with each other or are otherwise inadequate, and

WHEREAS the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Bells, Tennessee, has caused its ordinances of a general, continuing, and permanent application or of a penal nature to be codified and revised and the same are embodied in a code of ordinances known as the "Bells Municipal Code," now, therefore:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF BELLS, TENNESSEE, THAT:

**Section 1. Ordinances codified.** The ordinances of the city of a general, continuing, and permanent application or of a penal nature, as codified and revised in the following "titles," namely "titles" 1 to 20, both inclusive, are ordained and adopted as the "Bells Municipal Code," hereinafter referred to as the "Municipal Code."

**Section 2. Ordinances repealed.** All ordinances of a general, continuing, and permanent application or of a penal nature not contained in the municipal code are hereby repealed from and after the effective date of said code, except as hereinafter provided in section 3 below.

**Section 3. Ordinances saved from repeal.** The repeal provided for in section 2 of this ordinance shall not affect: Any offense or act committed or done, or any penalty or forfeiture incurred, or any contract or right established or accruing before the effective date of the municipal code; any ordinance or resolution promising or requiring the payment of money by or to the city or authorizing the issuance of any bonds or other evidence of said city's indebtedness; any appropriation ordinance or ordinance providing for the levy of taxes or any budget ordinance; any contract or obligation assumed by or in favor of said city; any ordinance establishing or authorizing the establishment of a social security system or providing or changing coverage under that system; any administrative ordinances or resolutions not in conflict or inconsistent with the provisions of such code; the portion of any ordinance not in conflict with such code which regulates speed, direction of travel, passing,



stopping, yielding, standing, or parking on any specifically named public street or way; any right or franchise granted by the city; any ordinance dedicating, naming, establishing, locating, relocating, opening, closing, paving, widening, vacating, etc., any street or public way; any ordinance establishing and prescribing the grade of any street; any ordinance providing for local improvements and special assessments therefor; any ordinance dedicating or accepting any plat or subdivision; any prosecution, suit, or other proceeding pending or any judgment rendered on or prior to the effective date of said code; any zoning ordinance or amendment thereto or amendment to the zoning map; nor shall such repeal affect any ordinance annexing territory to the city.

**Section 4. Continuation of existing provisions.** Insofar as the provisions of the municipal code are the same as those of ordinances existing and in force on its effective date, said provisions shall be considered to be continuations thereof and not as new enactments.

**Section 5. Penalty clause.** Unless otherwise specified in a title, chapter or section of the municipal code, including the codes and ordinances adopted by reference, whenever in the municipal code any act is prohibited or is made or declared to be a civil offense, or whenever in the municipal code the doing of any act is required or the failure to do any act is declared to be a civil offense, the violation of any such provision of the municipal code shall be punished by a civil penalty of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and costs for each separate violation; provided, however, that the imposition of a civil penalty under the provisions of this municipal code shall not prevent the revocation of any permit or license or the taking of other punitive or remedial action where called for or permitted under the provisions of the municipal code or other applicable law. In any place in the municipal code the term "it shall be a misdemeanor" or "it shall be an offense" or "it shall be unlawful" or similar terms appears in the context of a penalty provision of this municipal code, it shall mean "it shall be a civil offense." Anytime the word "fine" or similar term appears in the context of a penalty provision of this municipal code, it shall mean "a civil penalty."

When a civil penalty is imposed on any person for violating any provision of the municipal code and such person defaults on payment of such penalty, he may be required to perform hard labor, within or without the workhouse, to the extent that his physical condition shall permit, until such civil penalty is discharged by payment, or until such person, being credited

with such sum as may be prescribed for each day's hard labor, has fully discharged said penalty.<sup>1</sup>

Each day any violation of the municipal code continues shall constitute a separate civil offense.

**Section 6. Severability clause.** Each section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, and clause of the municipal code, including the codes and ordinances adopted by reference, is hereby declared to be separable and severable. The invalidity of any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, or clause in the municipal code shall not affect the validity of any other portion of said code, and only any portion declared to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction shall be deleted therefrom.

**Section 7. Reproduction and amendment of code.** The municipal code shall be reproduced in loose-leaf form. The board of mayor and aldermen, by motion or resolution, shall fix, and change from time to time as considered necessary, the prices to be charged for copies of the municipal code and revisions thereto. After adoption of the municipal code, each ordinance affecting the code shall be adopted as amending, adding, or deleting, by numbers, specific chapters or sections of said code. Periodically thereafter all affected pages of the municipal code shall be revised to reflect such amended, added, or deleted material and shall be distributed to city officers and employees having copies of said code and to other persons who have requested and paid for current revisions. Notes shall be inserted at the end of amended or new sections, referring to the numbers of ordinances making the amendments or adding the new provisions, and such references shall be cumulative if a section is amended more than once in order that the current copy of the municipal code will contain references to all ordinances responsible for current provisions. One copy of the municipal code as originally adopted and one copy of each amending ordinance thereafter adopted shall be furnished to the Municipal Technical Advisory Service immediately upon final passage and adoption.

**Section 8. Construction of conflicting provisions.** Where any provision of the municipal code is in conflict with any other provision in said code, the provision which establishes the higher standard for the promotion and protection of the public health, safety, and welfare shall prevail.

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<sup>1</sup>State law reference

For authority to allow deferred payment of fines, or payment by installments, see Tennessee Code Annotated, § 40-24-101 et seq.

ORD-4

**Section 9. Code available for public use.** A copy of the municipal code shall be kept available in the recorder's office for public use and inspection at all reasonable times.

**Section 10. Date of effect.** This ordinance shall take effect from and after its final passage, the public welfare requiring it, and the municipal code, including all the codes and ordinances therein adopted by reference, shall be effective on and after that date.

Passed 1st reading May 26, 1998

Passed 2nd reading June 8, 1998

H Craig  
Mayor

Elizabeth Markey  
Recorder