

TITLE 7

FIRE PROTECTION AND FIREWORKS¹

CHAPTER

1. FIRE DISTRICT.
2. FIRE DEPARTMENT.
3. FIRE SERVICE OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS.
4. FIREWORKS.

CHAPTER 1

FIRE DISTRICT

SECTION

7-101. Fire district described.

7-101. Fire district described. The corporate fire district shall be as follows:

The area downtown fronting on South Main Street bounded on the east by Commerce Street and on the west by Church Street.

¹Municipal code reference

Building, utility and housing codes: title 12.

CHAPTER 2

FIRE DEPARTMENT¹

SECTION

- 7-201. Establishment, equipment, and membership.
- 7-202. Objectives.
- 7-203. Organization, rules, and regulations.
- 7-204. Records and reports.
- 7-205. Tenure and compensation of members.
- 7-206. Chief responsible for training and maintenance.
- 7-207. Chief to be assistant to state officer.

7-201. Establishment, equipment, and membership. There is hereby established a fire department to be supported and equipped from appropriations by the board of mayor and aldermen. All apparatus, equipment, and supplies shall be purchased by or through the city and shall be and remain the property of the city. The fire department shall be composed of a chief and such number of physically-fit subordinate officers and firemen as the board of mayor and aldermen shall appoint.

7-202. Objectives. The 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.
- (6) To perform such rescue work as its equipment and/or the training of its personnel makes practicable.

7-203. Organization, rules, and regulations. The chief of the fire department shall set up the organization of the department, make definite assignments to individuals, and shall formulate and enforce such rules and regulations as shall be necessary for the orderly and efficient operation of the fire department, under the direction of the board of mayor and aldermen.

7-204. Records and reports. The chief of the fire department shall keep adequate records of all fires, inspections, apparatus, equipment, personnel,

¹Municipal code reference

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

and work of the department. He shall submit such written reports on those matters to the mayor as the mayor requires. The mayor shall submit a report on those matters to the board of mayor and aldermen as the board of mayor and aldermen requires.

7-205. Tenure and compensation of members. The chief shall have the authority to suspend any other member of the fire department when he deems such action to be necessary for the good of the department. The chief may be suspended up to thirty (30) days by the mayor. However, only the board of mayor and aldermen shall dismiss either the fire chief or subordinate officers and firemen.

7-206. Chief responsible for training and maintenance. The chief of the fire department, shall be fully responsible for the training of the firemen and for maintenance of all property and equipment of the fire department, under the direction and subject to the requirements of the board of mayor and aldermen.

7-207. 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 3

FIRE SERVICE OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS

SECTION

7-301. Restrictions on fire service outside city limits.

7-301. Restrictions on fire service outside city limits. No personnel or equipment of the fire department shall be used for fighting any fire outside the city limits unless the fire is on city property or, in the opinion of the fire chief, is in such hazardous proximity to property owned or located within the city as to endanger the city property, or unless the board of mayor and aldermen has developed policies for providing emergency services outside of the city limits or entered into a contract or mutual aid agreement pursuant to the authority of:

(1) The Local Government Emergency Assistance Act of 1987, as amended, codified in Tennessee Code Annotated, § 58-2-601, et seq.¹

¹State law references

Tennessee Code Annotated, § 58-2-601, et seq., as amended by Public Acts 1988, Ch. 499, authorizes any municipality or other local governmental entity to go outside of its boundaries in response to a request for emergency assistance by another local government. It does not create a duty to respond to or to stay at the scene of an emergency outside its jurisdiction.

This statute, as amended, does not require written agreements between the local governments, but authorizes them to develop policies and procedures for requesting and responding to requests for emergency assistance, including provisions for compensation for service rendered.

The statute specifies which municipal officers may request and respond to requests for emergency assistance and provides for the appointment by municipal governing bodies of additional municipal officers with the same authority.

The statute provides that the senior officer of the requesting party will be in command at the scene of the emergency.

The statute outlines the liabilities of the requesting and responding
(continued...)

- (2) Tennessee Code Annotated, § 12-9-101, et seq.¹
- (3) Tennessee Code Annotated, § 6-54-601.²

(...continued)

governments as follows: (1) Neither the responding party nor its employees shall be liable for any property damage or bodily injury at the actual scene of any emergency due to actions performed in responding to a request for emergency assistance; (2) The requesting party is not liable for damages to the equipment and personnel of the responding party in response to the request for emergency assistance; and (3) Neither the requesting party nor its employees is liable for damages caused by the negligence of the personnel of the responding party while enroute to or from the scene of the emergency.

¹State law reference

Tennessee Code Annotated, § 12-9-101 et seq. is the Interlocal Cooperation Act which authorizes municipalities and other governments to enter into mutual aid agreements of various kinds.

²State law reference

Tennessee Code Annotated, § 6-54-601 authorizes municipalities (1) To enter into mutual aid agreements with other municipalities, counties, privately incorporated fire departments, utility districts and metropolitan airport authorities which provide for firefighting service, and with industrial fire departments, to furnish one another with fire fighting assistance. (2) Enter into contracts with organizations of residents and property owners of unincorporated communities to provide such communities with firefighting assistance. (3) Provide fire protection outside their city limits to either citizens on an individual contractual basis, or to citizens in an area without individual contracts, whenever an agreement has first been entered into between the municipality providing the fire service and the county or counties in which the fire protection is to be provided. (Counties may compensate municipalities for the extension of fire services.)

CHAPTER 4**FIREWORKS****SECTION**

7-401. Fireworks prohibited in corporate limits.

7-402. Use of fireworks restricted.

7-403. Penalty.

7-401. Fireworks prohibited in corporate limits. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, corporation, joint stock company, syndicate, or association to store or sell fireworks of any kind. (Ord. dated 2/14/73)

7-402. Use of fireworks restricted. It shall be unlawful for any person to shoot or use fireworks of any kind on streets, sidewalks, or on public property such as stores, churches, schools, and the like within the corporate limits. (Ord. dated 2/14/73)

7-403. Penalty. Any person violating any provision of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than two (2) dollars nor more than fifty (50) dollars. (Ord. dated 2/14/73)