

TITLE 15

MOTOR VEHICLES, TRAFFIC AND PARKING¹

CHAPTER

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CHAPTER 1

MISCELLANEOUS²

SECTION

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¹Municipal code reference

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

²State 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.

- 15-112. School safety patrols.
- 15-113. Driving through funerals or other processions.
- 15-114. Clinging to vehicles in motion.
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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 such muffler, lights, brakes, horn, and such other equipment as is prescribed and required by Tennessee Code Annotated, title 55, chapter 9. (1970 Code, § 9-101)

15-102. Driving on streets closed for repairs, etc. No motor vehicle shall be driven upon any street that is roped off or closed in any way for the purpose of repairs. (1970 Code, § 9-107)

15-103. Reckless driving. No person shall drive any vehicle in willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property. (1970 Code, § 9-108)

15-104. One-way streets. Where the municipality has designated certain streets for one-way traffic and has posted signs indicating the authorized direction of travel at all intersections offering access to such one-way streets, no person shall operate any vehicle except in the indicated direction. (1970 Code, § 9-110)

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 municipality 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. (1970 Code, § 9-111)

15-106. Laned streets. Where the municipality has had 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 right hand lane except when lawfully passing another vehicle or preparatory to making a lawful turning movement. (1970 Code, § 9-112)

15-107. Yellow lines. Where the municipality has had a yellow line placed to the right of any lane line or center line of any street it 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 left turn to enter another street, alley, or driveway. (1970 Code, § 9-113)

15-108. Miscellaneous traffic-control signs, signals, markings, and devices.¹ 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 municipality. (1970 Code, § 9-114)

15-109. General requirements for traffic-control signs, signals, markings, and devices. All traffic-control signs, signals, markings, and devices required hereunder for a particular purpose shall conform to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways,² 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 municipality. (1970 Code, § 9-115)

15-110. Unauthorized traffic-control signs, signals, markings, and devices. 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 an official traffic-control device or railroad sign or signal, or which attempts to control the movement of traffic, or which

¹Municipal code references

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

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

hides from view or interferes with the effectiveness of any official traffic-control device or any railroad sign or signal. (1970 Code, § 9-116)

15-111. Presumption with respect to traffic-control signs, signals, markings, and devices. 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 authority. (1970 Code, § 9-117)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-118)

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 Rockwood 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. Truck route through city. All through trucks from State Highways Nos. 1 and 61 (U.S. Highways 27 and 70) shall travel through Rockwood only on Gateway Avenue. No truck larger than three-fourths (3/4) ton shall be permitted on Kingston Avenue except when reasonably necessary to make a pickup or delivery in the city. (1970 Code, § 9-119)

15-124. Weight limit for through trucks. A weight limit or a load limit of 10,000 pounds per truck on all through traffic shall apply to the following streets and routes:

- (1) Air Port Road from Municipal limits to Black Hollow Road.
- (2) Furnace Avenue from Rockwood Street to Air Port Road.
- (3) Rockwood Street from Gateway Avenue to Furnace Avenue.

- (4) Dunn Street from Gateway Avenue to Trinity Avenue.
- (5) Front Street from Dunn Street to Bates Street.
- (6) Bates Street from Front Street to Furnace Avenue.
- (7) Dunn Street from Gateway Avenue to Municipal Limits.
- (8) Strang Street from Gateway Avenue to Furnace Avenue.
- (9) Baldwin Street from Clymersville Road to Wilder Avenue.
- (10) Tarwater Street from Kingston Avenue to Municipal Limits.
- (11) Baldwin Street from Clymersville Road to Wilder Avenue.
- (12) Tedder Street from Black Hollow Road to Front Street.
- (13) Front Street from Dunn Street to Tedder Street.
- (14) Black Hollow Road from Air Port Road to Municipal Limits at Southern Railway.
- (15) Wheeler Street from Gateway Avenue to Municipal Limits.
- (16) Nelson Street from Gateway Avenue to Pumphouse Road.

Signs shall be placed at appropriate locations to indicate that said streets are closed to all through traffic over 10,000 pounds. (1970 Code, § 9-121, modified)

15-125. Financial responsibility of owners and operators. The City of Rockwood City Council adopts these requirements set forth in Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-12-139 and hereby instructs our municipal court to abide by this section. (as added by Ord. #07-1094, July 2006)

15-126. Safety belts. The City Council of Rockwood, Tennessee adopts these requirements set forth in Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 55-9-602 and 55-9-603, and hereby instructs our municipal court to abide by this section. (as added by Ord. #07-1095, July 2006)

15-127. Adoption of state traffic statutes. By the authority granted under *Tennessee Code Annotated*, § 16-18-302, the city adopts by reference as if fully set forth in this section, the "Rules of the Road," as codified in *Tennessee Code Annotated*, §§ 55-8-101 to 55-8-131, and §§ 55-8-133 to 55-8-180. Additionally, the city/town adopts *Tennessee Code Annotated*, §§ 55-8-181 to 55-8-193, §§ 55-9-601 to 55-9-606, § 55-12-139, § 55-21-108, and § 55-8-199 by reference as if fully set forth in this section. (as added by Ord. #12-54, Dec. 2017 *Ch3_6-18-19*)

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.
- 15-205. Operation of other vehicles upon the approach of emergency vehicles.

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. (1970 Code, § 9-102)

15-202. Operation of authorized emergency vehicles.¹ (1) 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.

(2) The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle may:

- (a) Park or stand, irrespective of the provisions of this title.
- (b) Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down to ascertain that the intersection is clear.
- (c) Exceed the maximum speed limits so long as he does not endanger life or property.
- (d) Disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning in specified directions.

(3) The exemptions herein granted to 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 as may be necessary, and when the vehicle is equipped with at least one lighted lamp displaying a red light visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of 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.

(4) The foregoing provisions shall not relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the

¹Municipal code reference

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

safety of all persons, nor shall such provisions protect the driver from the consequences of his reckless disregard for the safety of others. (1970 Code, § 9-103)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-105)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-106)

15-205. Operation of other vehicles upon the approach of emergency vehicles. Upon the approach of any authorized emergency vehicle, the operators of all other vehicles shall immediately drive to the right hand curb or edge of the roadway, stop, and remain parked until the emergency vehicle has passed. (1970 Code, § 9-104)

CHAPTER 3

SPEED LIMITS

SECTION

15-301. In general.

15-302. At intersections.

15-303. In school zones and near playgrounds.

15-304. In congested areas.

15-305. Reduction on Hewitt Avenue and West Strang Street.

15-301. In general. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or drive a motor vehicle upon any highway or street of this municipality at a rate of speed in excess of thirty (30) miles per hour except where the municipality has erected or authorized official signs indicating a greater lawful speed limit. (1970 Code, § 9-201)

15-302. At intersections. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or drive a motor vehicle through any intersection of this municipality 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. (1970 Code, § 9-202)

15-303. In school zones and near playgrounds. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or drive a motor vehicle through any school zone or near any playground within this municipality at a rate of speed in excess of fifteen (15) miles per hour when official signs indicating such speed limit have been posted by authority of the municipality. (1970 Code, § 9-203)

15-304. In congested areas. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or drive a motor vehicle through any congested area within this municipality at a rate of speed in excess of fifteen (15) miles per hour when official signs indicating such speed limit has been posted by authority of the municipality. (1970 Code, § 9-204)

15-305. Reduction on Hewitt Avenue and West Strang Street.

(1) The speed limit on the portion of Hewitt Avenue from its intersection with West Rockwood Street to its intersection with West Strang Street is hereby reduced from thirty (30) mph to twenty-five (25) mph.

(2) The speed limit on the portion of West Strang Street from its intersection with Furnace Avenue to its intersection with North Wilder Avenue is hereby reduced from thirty (30) mph to twenty-five (25) mph.

(3) Signs shall be erected indicating that the speed limit on the portions of Hewitt Avenue and West Strang Street described above is twenty-five (25) mph. (as added by Ord. #12-17, Jan. 2016)

CHAPTER 4

TURNING MOVEMENTS**SECTION**

15-401. Signals.

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. Signals. No person operating a motor vehicle shall make any turning movement which might affect the operation of any other vehicle without first signaling his intention in accordance with the requirements of the state law.¹ (1970 Code, § 9-301)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-302)

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 such center line of the roadway being entered. (1970 Code, § 9-303)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-304)

15-405. U-turns. U-turns are prohibited. (1970 Code, § 9-305)

¹State 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, driveways or buildings.
- 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.¹ 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, or of a police vehicle properly and lawfully making use of an audible signal only, the driver of every other vehicle shall yield the right of way and 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. (1970 Code, § 9-401)

15-502. When emerging from alleys, driveways or buildings. The drivers of all vehicles emerging from alleys, driveways, or buildings shall stop such vehicles immediately prior to driving onto any sidewalk or the sidewalk area extending across any alleyway or driveway. They shall not proceed to drive onto the street until they can safely do so without colliding or interfering with approaching pedestrians or vehicles. (1970 Code, § 9-402)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-403)

¹Municipal code reference

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

15-504. At railroad crossings. Whenever any driver of a vehicle approaches a railroad grade crossing under any of the following circumstances he shall stop within fifty (50) feet but not less than fifteen (15) feet from the nearest rail of the railroad and shall not proceed until he can do so safely. The circumstances requiring stops shall be when:

(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 emits an audible signal indicating its approach.

(4) An approaching railroad train is plainly visible and is in hazardous proximity to the crossing. (1970 Code, § 9-404)

15-505. At "stop" signs. The drivers of all vehicles shall stop their vehicles and yield to approaching traffic before proceeding at all places within the corporate limits where "stop" signs have been placed by the municipality. (1970 Code, § 9-405)

15-506. At "yield" signs. The drivers of all vehicles shall yield to approaching traffic before proceeding at all places within the corporate limits where "yield" signs have been placed by the municipality. (1970 Code, § 9-406)

15-507. At traffic-control signals generally. Where this municipality has installed traffic-control signals exhibiting the words "Go," "Caution," or "Stop," or exhibiting different colored lights successively one at a time, or with arrows, the following colors only shall be used and said terms and lights shall indicate and 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 either 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) No pedestrian facing such signal shall enter the roadway until the green or "go" is shown alone (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.

(b) No pedestrians facing such signal shall enter the roadway until the green or "go" is shown alone (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) No pedestrians facing such signal shall enter the roadway until the green or "go" is shown alone (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 at the signal. (1970 Code, § 9-407)

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 by the municipality 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. (1970 Code, § 9-408)

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 municipality, 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. (1970 Code, § 9-409)

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,¹ except in an emergency. (1970 Code, § 9-410)

¹State 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. Except as hereinafter provided, every vehicle parked upon a street within this municipality 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 municipality 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. (1970 Code, § 9-501)

15-602. Angle parking. On those streets which have been signed or marked by the municipality for angle parking, no person shall park or stand a vehicle other than at the angle indicated by such signs or markings. Furthermore, 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. (1970 Code, § 9-502)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-503)

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

- (1) On a sidewalk.
- (2) In front of a public or private driveway.
- (3) Within an intersection or within fifteen (15) feet thereof.
- (4) Within fifteen (15) feet of a fire hydrant.
- (5) Within a pedestrian crosswalk.
- (6) Within fifty (50) feet of a railroad crossing.
- (7) Within twenty (20) feet 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 (75) feet of the entrance.

- (8) Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when other traffic would be obstructed.
- (9) On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street.
- (10) Upon any bridge.
- (11) Alongside any curb which the municipality has had painted yellow.
- (12) On the unpaved or ungraveled portion of any street right of way.
- (13) Parking is banned on the north side and south side of SR No. 1 (Gateway Avenue) from W. Dunn Street to 1,000 feet west of W. Rathburn Street. (1970 Code, § 9-504)

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 municipality as a loading and unloading zone. (1970 Code, § 9-505)

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. (1970 Code, § 9-513)

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. Deposit of driver license in lieu of bail.
- 15-707. Violation and penalty.

15-701. Issuance of traffic citations.¹ 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 thirty (30) days during the hours and at a place specified in the citation.

¹Municipal 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.

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. Deposit of driver's license in lieu of bail. (1) Deposit allowed. Whenever any person lawfully possessing a chauffeur's or operator's license theretofore issued to him by the Tennessee Department of Safety, or under the driver licensing laws of any other state or territory or the District of Columbia, is issued a citation or arrested and charged with the violation of any city ordinance or state statute regulating traffic, except those ordinances and statutes, the violation of which call for the mandatory revocation of a operator's or chauffeur's license for any period of time, such person shall have the option of depositing his chauffeur's or operator's license with the officer or court demanding bail in lieu of any other security required for his appearance in the city court of this city in answer to such charge before said court.

(2) Receipt to be issued. Whenever any person deposits his chauffeur's or operator's license as provided, either the officer or the court demanding bail as described above, shall issue the person a receipt for the license upon a form approved or provided by the department of safety, and thereafter the person shall be permitted to operate a motor vehicle upon the public highways of this state during the pendency of the case in which the license was deposited. The receipt shall be valid as a temporary driving permit for a period not less than the time necessary for an appropriate adjudication of the matter in the city court, and shall state such period of validity on its face.

(3) Failure to appear - disposition of license. In the event that any driver who has deposited his chauffeur's or operator's license in lieu of bail fails to appear in answer to the charges filed against him, the clerk or judge of the city court accepting the license shall forward the same to the Tennessee Department of Safety for disposition by said department in accordance with the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, § 55-50-801, et seq.

15-707. 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 violations excluding handicapped parking. For parking violations, excluding handicapped parking violations, the offender may, within thirty (30) days, have the charge against him disposed of by paying to the city recorder a fine of ten dollars (\$10.00) provided he waives his right to a judicial hearing. If he appears and waives his right to a judicial hearing after thirty (30) days his civil penalty shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00).