

TITLE 20

MISCELLANEOUS

CHAPTER

1. EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE POLICY.

CHAPTER 1

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE POLICY

SECTION

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20-101. Policy and procedures. The purpose of this chapter is to establish the policy and procedures that will govern the Town of Tennessee Ridge in the process of requesting emergency assistance of another local government or in responding to the request of another local government for emergency assistance. (Ord. #2-92, Jan. 1993)

20-102. Definitions. (1) "Appropriate senior officer" shall mean the police chief or the fire chief or their respective officer in charge. For departments other than law enforcement or fire services the mayor or the person in charge of the particular service area shall be the appropriate senior officer.

(2) "Emergency assistance" as defined in the Local Government Emergency Assistance Act of 1987 shall mean fire fighting assistance, law enforcement assistance, public works assistance, emergency medical assistance, civil defense assistance, or other emergency assistance provided by local government or any combination or all of these requested by a local government in an emergency situation in which the resources of the requesting local government are not adequate to handle the emergency.

(3) "Local government" shall mean any incorporated city or town, metropolitan government, county utility district, metropolitan airport authority, or other regional district or authority.

(4) "Requesting party" means a local government which requests emergency assistance.

(5) "Responding party" means a local government which responds to a request for emergency assistance. (Ord. #2-92, Jan. 1993)

20-103. Requests for assistance. (1) All requests for emergency assistance made on behalf of the Town of Tennessee Ridge shall be made or authorized by the appropriate senior officer. The Town of Tennessee Ridge through its appropriate senior officer, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Emergency Assistance Act of 1987, will be in full command of its emergency as to strategy, tactics, and overall direction of the operation and shall direct the actions of the responding party by relaying orders to the senior officer in command of the responding party.

(2) The Town of Tennessee Ridge accepts liability for damages or injuries, as defined in Tennessee Code Annotated, § 29-20-101, et seq., caused by the negligence of its employees or the employees, including authorized volunteers, of a responding party while under the command of the senior officer of the Town of Tennessee Ridge. However, the Town of Tennessee Ridge does not accept liability for damages to the equipment or personnel including authorized volunteers of a responding party, nor is the Town of Tennessee Ridge liable for any damages caused by the negligence of the personnel of the responding party while enroute to or returning from the scene of the emergency.

(3) The Town of Tennessee Ridge acknowledges that any party from whom assistance is requested has no duty to respond nor does it have any duty to stay at the scene of the emergency and may depart at its discretion. (Ord. #2-92, Jan. 1993)

20-104. Response to requests for assistance. (1) The Town of Tennessee Ridge will respond to calls for emergency assistance only upon request for such assistance made by the appropriate senior officer on duty for the requesting city. All requests for emergency assistance shall be made only to the police chief, fire chief, mayor or the person in charge of the particular service requested.

(2) Upon the receipt of a request for aid as provided for in the preceding paragraph the city is authorized to respond as follows:

(a) The city is authorized to provide at least one (1) piece of equipment and (1) person or crew from that particular service area from which emergency assistance is requested.

(b) The greatest response that the Town of Tennessee Ridge will provide is fifty percent (50%) of the personnel and resources of that particular service for which emergency assistance is requested.

(3) The Town of Tennessee Ridge has no duty to respond to a request and will reject a request for emergency assistance or will depart from the scene of the emergency based upon the discretionary judgement of the appropriate senior officer in command at the scene of the emergency or the appropriate senior officer for that service for the Town of Tennessee Ridge. In cases where two or more requests for emergency assistance are made at the same time, the appropriate senior officer of the Town of Tennessee Ridge shall determine, based upon a reasonable appraisal of the emergencies of the requesting jurisdictions, how best to respond to the requests. The appropriate senior officer may

determine to send all available resources to the jurisdiction with the most dire emergency, or may send some resources to each requesting jurisdiction.

(4) The Town of Tennessee Ridge accepts full liability, as defined in Tennessee Code Annotated, § 29-20-101, et seq., for any damages to its equipment and personnel in responding to a request for emergency assistance and for damages caused by its equipment or personnel while enroute to or returning from the scene of the emergency. However, the Town of Tennessee Ridge shall not be liable for any property damage or bodily injury at the actual scene of any emergency due to actions which are performed in responding to a request for emergency assistance. (Ord. #2-92, Jan. 1993)

20-105. Scope. The personnel of the Town of Tennessee Ridge shall have extended to any geographic area necessary as a result of a request for emergency assistance the same jurisdiction, authority, rights, privileges, and immunities, including coverage under the Worker's Compensation Laws, which they have in the Town of Tennessee Ridge. (Ord. #2-92, Jan. 1993)