

TITLE 20

MISCELLANEOUS

CHAPTER

1. TELEPHONE SERVICE.
2. EMERGENCY ALARM DEVICES.

CHAPTER 1

TELEPHONE SERVICE

SECTION

20-101. To be furnished under franchise.

20-101. To be furnished under franchise. Telephone service shall be furnished for the municipality and its inhabitants under such franchise as the governing body shall grant.¹ The rights, powers, duties, and obligations of the municipality, its inhabitants, and the grantee of the franchise shall be clearly stated in the written franchise agreement which shall be binding on all parties concerned.

¹The agreements are of record in the office of the town recorder.

CHAPTER 2

EMERGENCY ALARM DEVICES

SECTION

- 20-201. Definitions.
- 20-202. False alarms.
- 20-203. Assessment for false alarms.
- 20-204. Violation and penalty.
- 20-205. Disconnection.

20-201. Definitions. Unless it is apparent from the context that another meaning is intended, the following words when used in this chapter shall have the meanings indicated herein:

(1) (a) "Alarm system" means any assembly of equipment, mechanical or electrical, arranged to signal the police and/or fire department that an emergency exists or that the services of both those departments are needed.

(b) "Alarm system" also means any alarm device which automatically emits an audible, visual, or other response upon the occurrence of any hazard or emergency that is intended to alert persons outside the building, automobile or any other kind of real or personal property to the existence of the hazard or emergency.

(2) "Alarm user" means the person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company or organization of any kind in control of any building, automobile or any other kind of real or personal property wherein an alarm system is located.

(3) "False alarm" means an activated alarm signal that generates an emergency response by the police and/or fire departments at the location of the activated alarm when an emergency does not exist. However, this definition does not include an alarm signal caused by unusually violent conditions of nature. (as added by Ord. #2080, March 2000)

20-202. False alarms. (1) Whenever an alarm is activated in the town and the police and/or fire department makes an emergency response at the location of the activated alarm, a police and/or fire officer on the scene of the activated alarm shall determine whether the activation of the alarm reflected an actual emergency. If the activation of the alarm reflected no actual emergency, the alarm shall be considered a false alarm.

(2) If the police and/or fire officer at the location of the activated alarm system determines the activated alarm was a false alarm, he/they shall submit a report of a false alarm to the town administrator or his designee, and to his/their respective chiefs. The town administrator or his designee shall mail a written notice of the false alarm to the alarm user at the location of the

activated alarm. The notice shall impose a false alarm assessment, if any, as prescribed by § 20-203 of this chapter.

(3) The alarm user shall have ten (10) days from the date the letter was mailed to request a hearing before the town administrator or his designee to contest the false alarm assessment.

(4) The alarm user shall have a fourteen (14) day grace period following the installation of the alarm system, during which any false alarms generated by the alarm shall not be subject to the false alarm assessment prescribed in § 20-203 of this chapter.

(5) Any alarm business testing or servicing any alarm system may notify the police and/or fire department at least two (2) hours in advance that it intends to test a particular alarm system at a specific location and time. If such notice is given the civil penalty prescribed in § 20-203 of this chapter shall not apply to any false alarm generated by the activated alarm. (as added by Ord. #2080, March 2000)

20-203. Assessment for false alarm. Any alarm user whose alarm generates three or more false alarms within any six month period shall pay a false alarm assessment of \$25.00 for each and every additional false alarm. The willful failure or refusal to pay such assessment shall be a civil violation punishable by a civil penalty of \$_____. (as added by Ord. #2080, March 2000)

20-204. Violation and penalty. It shall be a civil violation for any person to intentionally cause a false alarm, which offense shall be punished by a civil penalty of \$_____. (as added by Ord. #2080, March 2000)

20-205. Disconnection. In the event that an alarm system emitting an audible or visual signal is not deactivated by the alarm user, the town shall take such legal and reasonable action necessary to disconnect the alarm. (as added by Ord. #2080, March 2000)