

CHAPTER 15

TOWN OF RIB FALLS, MARATHON COUNTY, WISCONSIN  
AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "FIRE PROTECTION"  
AND RECREATING THE SAME UNDER THE HEADING  
"FIRE AND AMBULANCE PROTECTION"

The Town Board of the Town of Rib Falls, Marathon County, Wisconsin, do ordain as follows:

SECTION 1: Ordinance #22-99 entitled "FIRE PROTECTION" is hereby repealed and said ordinance is hereby recreated to provide as follows:

**ORDINANCE #22-99**  
**FIRE AND AMBULANCE PROTECTION**

(1) **PURPOSE.** The Town Board of the Town of Rib Falls pursuant to sec. 60.55, Wis. Stats., has contracted with the Marathon Area Fire Department and Tanker Association, the Edgar Joint Tanker Association, the Edgar Fire Department and with the Town of Hamburg so as to provide for fire protection for the Town of Rib Falls. The Town of Rib Falls is obligated by contract to pay not only annual charges but also hourly rates to the Marathon Area Fire Department, the Edgar Fire Department and to the Hamburg Fire Department for such protection. The Town of Rib Falls is further obligated by contract to pay for ambulance service for those in need of such service within the Town. It is the declared policy of the Town Board of the Town of Rib Falls that some of the expenses associated with fire protection and ambulance service be passed on to the property owners who receive the benefit of fire protection and the persons involved in motor vehicle accidents who are in need of ambulance service. It is also declared to be the policy of the Town to pass on all of the costs of fire protection to those individuals requiring fire protection services due to the escape of fire, either onto their own premises or neighboring premises from outdoor burning.

(2) **FIRE PROTECTION CHARGES TO PROPERTY OWNERS.** The following charges shall be assessed against owners of property in the Town of Rib Falls for each fire run to the owners property based upon the costs to the Town for each fire call:

- (a) The first \$500.00 of the cost of each fire run to the Town shall be the responsibility of the property owner of the premises served by the fire department responding to the fire call. Any such costs over \$500.00 but less than \$3,000.00 shall be split equally between the property owner and the Town of Rib Falls. All costs in excess of \$3,000.00 will be the responsibility of the property owner.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) hereinabove, the full costs and expenses billed to the Town by any fire department due to a fire on the owner's property shall be borne by the owner under the following circumstances:

- i. For all fires caused by any person, firm or corporation engaging in outdoor burning, including but not limited to, nuisance fire and grass fires;
- ii. Any property owner or occupant of property who shall contact any fire department other than the Marathon Area Fire Department, the Edgar Fire Department or the Hamburg Fire Department shall be responsible for the full costs billed to the Town for any fire call for any property located in the Town of Rib Falls.

(3) FIRE AND AMBULANCE CHARGES/MOTOR VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT ACCIDENTS. The costs and expenses for each fire and ambulance run to motor vehicle, truck or equipment accidents within the Town shall be the responsibility of the person or persons served by the fire/ambulance call or transported by an ambulance from the accident scene or the person or persons who have been rendered aid by ambulance personnel at the scene of an accident but not transported from the scene by the ambulance.

(4) PAYMENT OF BILLS FOR FIRE CALLS AND AMBULANCE SERVICE.

- (a) Fire Calls. The costs of fire calls as set forth in paragraph 2 of this ordinance shall be billed by the Town Clerk to the property owner and paid to the Town Treasurer within sixty (60) days of the date of the billing. Failure to pay the bill within sixty (60) days thereafter will result in interest being charged at the rate of 1.5% per month from the billing date until the amount of the bill is paid in full. Bills remaining outstanding, including interest, for more than ninety (90) days as of November 1 of any year shall become a lien against the real estate for which the fire protection was provided and shall be placed on the tax roll as a delinquent special charge pursuant to sec. 66.60(16), Wis. Stats.
- (b) Ambulance and Other Fire Call Charges. The actual costs and expenses incurred by the Town for fire

and ambulance service to the scene of a motor vehicle, truck or equipment accident shall be billed by the Town Clerk to the person transported by the ambulance or by the person who has been given medical aid by any of the ambulance personnel at the scene or served by the fire call. Payment shall be made without interest if paid within sixty (60) days from the date of billing. In the event payment is not made within sixty (60) days from the date of billing, interest shall accrue on the account at the rate of 1.5% per month from the billing date until the amount of the bill is paid in full.

SECTION 2: All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3: this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as provided by law.

TOWN BOARD, TOWN OF RIB FALLS

By: L. F. Stefel  
Lawrence F. Stefel, its Chairman

Jay Ludkey  
Jay Ludkey, Supervisor

Dennis Bergs  
Dennis Bergs, Supervisor

ATTEST:

Jan Wendtland  
Jan Wendtland

ADOPTED: 1-8-01  
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