

Chapter 59

FIRE DEPARTMENT

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[HISTORY: Adopted by the Village Board of the Village of Endeavor at time of adoption of Code (see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. II). Amendments noted where applicable.]

§ 59-1. Membership; bylaws. ¹

The Endeavor Moundville Joint Fire Department (hereinafter referred to as the "Fire Department") shall consist of the Chief and such other members as may from time to time be provided for by the bylaws of the Fire Department as approved by the Joint Fire Department Board. Said bylaws should be adopted for the control, management and government and regulation of business and proceedings of the Department subject to the approval of the Joint Fire Department Board and in accordance with Wisconsin law. An amendment shall be adopted in the same manner.

§ 59-2. Equipment and apparatus.

No apparatus shall be used for any purpose except for firefighting within the Endeavor Moundville Fire District or in training therefor, except pursuant to an agreement approved by the Joint Fire Department Board after the Chief has given his recommendation on such use. With the approval of the Chief, such apparatus may be used for emergency purposes other than firefighting within the Village. A written report of such use shall be made annually to the Joint Fire Department Board and included in the Department's budget.

1. Editor's Note: The Village of Endeavor has entered into an agreement with the Township of Moundville to create the Endeavor Moundville Fire District. A copy of the agreement, dated January 1, 1997, is on file at the office of the Village Clerk-Treasurer.

§ 59-3. Supervision by Fire Chief.

The Fire Chief shall have the control, subject to the bylaws of said Department and Joint Fire Department Board, of the Department and all fire apparatus belonging to the Village of Endeavor and Township of Moundville. Whenever any fire apparatus needs repairing said Fire Chief shall cause the same to be done without delay. Said Chief shall also be responsible for all fire apparatus as well as its upkeep.

§ 59-4. Command at fires.

In case of fire, the Fire Chief and his assistants shall rank in the order named and the officer of the highest rank at the fire shall take command of the Fire Department and direct the management thereof for the suppression of the fire, in the best manner possible, and when it may be necessary for the protection of other property and to prevent the spread of the conflagration, the officer in command may cause buildings to be removed, torn down or destroyed in the best manner possible.

§ 59-5. Number of members; organization.

The Fire Department shall consist of so many members as may be decided upon by the bylaws of the Department subject to the approval of the Joint Fire Department Board. The Secretary of the Department, if any is elected or appointed, shall keep a record of all meetings and shall keep a report available to the Joint Fire Department Board of all meetings and all activities of the Department. No officer shall be elected or appointed within the organization of the Department without first following the bylaws of the Department.

§ 59-6. Records.

The Fire Chief shall keep or cause to be kept a record of all meetings of the Fire Department and the attendance of the members and a record of all fires.

§ 59-7. Duties.

It shall be the function and duty of the Fire Department and every member thereof to extinguish accidental or destructive fires and to prevent the occurrence or spread of such fires.

§ 59-8. Obedience to orders.

Any firefighters in attendance at a fire shall at all times obey the orders of the officer in command at the fire in accordance with the bylaws of said Fire Department and the laws of the State of Wisconsin.

§ 59-9. Duties of spectators.

Spectators shall keep away from the fire, far enough to be out of the way of the firefighters.

§ 59-10. Enforcement.

It shall be the duty of the Joint Fire Department Board and the Chief of Police or his/her designee to see that the provisions of this chapter are enforced and to arrest on view any person who shall be found violating any of the provisions of this chapter or who shall hinder, resist, or refuse to obey any such officer in the discharge of his duty, and to that end all such officers are hereby vested the usual power and authority of police officers.

§ 59-11. Entering firehouse.

It shall be and hereby is declared unlawful for any person or persons to enter the Fire Department house or any place where the equipment and apparatus of the Fire Department are stored, at any time, except on business pertaining to the Fire Department or other business of the Joint Fire Department Board. The penalty for the violation of this section shall be as provided in Chapter 1, § 1-4 of this Code.

§ 59-12. Service outside corporate limits.

Members of the Fire Department are authorized to go outside the limits of the Endeavor Moundville Fire District for the purpose of rendering aid to other fire departments or of extinguishing fires or rendering aid in case of accidents. The Fire Department shall not render such service outside the fire district limits except upon orders of the Chief of the Fire Department or its ranking officer, and provided also that where the Fire Department has undertaken by contract to render service to property outside the fire district limits the Fire Department may leave the fire district limits in the fulfillment of such contract.

§ 59-13. Mutual aid fire program.

The mutual aid fire program is a plan or program as provided for in this chapter whereby the municipalities participating in the program agree to come to one another's assistance in case of fire or other disaster too large for local equipment and personnel to handle. The Fire Department shall be permitted to have in its bylaws provisions so as to enter into these mutual aid programs with different participating municipalities. Any such mutual aid contract shall be approved by the Joint Fire Department Board. Such mutual aid program shall, after approval by said Board and the other municipalities participating, be in full force and effect and binding upon such participating communities.

§ 59-14. Impeding fire equipment.

No person shall impede the progress of a fire engine or fire truck or other fire apparatus of the Fire Department along the streets or alleys of the Village at the time of a fire or when the Fire Department is using such streets or alleys in response to a fire alarm or for practice.

§ 59-15. Vehicles to yield right-of-way.

Upon approach of any authorized emergency vehicle giving audible signal by siren, the operator of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way and shall immediately drive such vehicle to a

position as near as possible and parallel to the right curb or the right-hand edge of the shoulder of the roadway, clear of any intersection, and, unless otherwise directed by the Chief of Police or his/her designee, shall stop and remain standing in such position until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed.

§ 59-16. Interference with use of hydrants.

No person shall occupy any portion of such streets or alleys with a motor or other vehicle between such fire engine or fire truck or other fire apparatus and any hydrant to which a fire hose may be or may be about to be attached.

§ 59-17. Driving over fire hose.

No person shall drive or ride in a motor or other vehicle over any fire hose of the Fire Department.

§ 59-18. Operation of vehicles near fire equipment.

No person driving or riding in a motor or other vehicle in the same direction as a fire engine or fire truck or other fire apparatus may be going shall pass or approach within 500 feet of such fire engine or fire truck or other fire apparatus at the time of a fire or an alarm of fire in the Village, and at such times every person so driving or riding in a motor or other vehicle in said Village shall obey the orders of the officers of the Fire Department as to the use of such streets and alleys.

§ 59-19. Right of entry.

Any firefighters while acting under the order or direction of the Chief or other officer in command may enter upon the premises adjacent to or in the vicinity of any building or other property then on fire for the purpose of extinguishing such fire, and no person shall hinder or obstruct any firefighters in the discharge of their duties.

§ 59-20. Removal of property.

The Chief shall have the power to cause the removal of any property whenever it shall become necessary for the preservation of such property from fire or to prevent the spread of fire or protect adjoining property, and during the progress of any fire the Chief shall have the power to order the destruction of any property necessary to prevent the further spread of the fire. The Chief shall also have the power to cause the removal of all wires or other facilities and the turning off of all electricity or other services where the same impede the work of the Fire Department during the progress of a fire.

§ 59-21. Disbursement of funds.

The bylaws of the Fire Department shall provide that all funds paid by the Fire Department will be disbursed by the Fire Department Treasurer. Upon request from the Village

Clerk-Treasurer, the Village office may obtain the Treasurer's records through the Joint Fire Department Board.

