

# **POLICE, FIRE AND EMERGENCIES**

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>CHAPTER 30 - POLICE DEPARTMENT .....</b>	<b>145</b>
<b>CHAPTER 35 - FIRE DEPARTMENT .....</b>	<b>155</b>
<b>CHAPTER 36 - EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICE .....</b>	<b>159</b>



## CHAPTER 30

# POLICE DEPARTMENT

30.01 Department Established  
30.02 Organization  
30.03 Peace Officer Qualifications  
30.04 Required Training  
30.05 Compensation  
30.06 Peace Officers Appointed

30.07 Police Chief: Duties  
30.08 Departmental Rules  
30.09 Summoning Aid  
30.10 Taking Weapons  
30.11 Contract Law Enforcement

**30.01 DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHED.** The police department of the City is established to provide for the preservation of peace and enforcement of law and ordinances within the corporate limits of the City.

**30.02 ORGANIZATION.** The department consists of the Police Chief and such other law enforcement officers and personnel, whether full or part time, as may be authorized by the Council.

**30.03 PEACE OFFICER QUALIFICATIONS.** In no case shall any person be selected or appointed as a law enforcement officer unless such person meets the minimum qualification standards established by the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 80B.11)*

**30.04 REQUIRED TRAINING.** All peace officers shall have received the minimum training required by law at an approved law enforcement training school within one year of employment. Peace officers shall also meet the minimum in-service training as required by law.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 80B.11 [2])*

*(IAC, 501-3 and 501-8)*

**30.05 COMPENSATION.** Members of the department are designated by rank and receive such compensation as shall be determined by resolution of the Council.

**30.06 PEACE OFFICERS APPOINTED.** The Mayor shall appoint and dismiss the Police Chief subject to the consent of a majority of the Council. The Mayor shall select, subject to the approval of Council, the other members of the department.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.4)*

**30.07 POLICE CHIEF: DUTIES.** The Police Chief has the following powers and duties subject to the approval of the Council.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13 [4])*

1. General. Perform all duties required of the police chief by law or ordinance.
2. Enforce Laws. Enforce all laws, ordinances and regulations and bring all persons committing any offense before the proper court.
3. Writs. Execute and return all writs and other processes directed to the Police Chief.

4. Accident Reports. Report all motor vehicle accidents investigated to the State Department of Transportation.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.266)*

5. Prisoners. Be responsible for the custody of prisoners, including conveyance to detention facilities as may be required.

6. Assist Officials. When requested, provide aid to other City officers, boards and commissions in the execution of their official duties.

7. Investigations. Provide for such investigation as may be necessary for the prosecution of any person alleged to have violated any law or ordinance.

8. Record of Arrests. Keep a record of all arrests made in the City by showing whether said arrests were made under provisions of State law or City ordinance, the offense charged, who made the arrest and the disposition of the charge.

9. Reports. Compile and submit to the Mayor and Council an annual report as well as such other reports as may be requested by the Mayor or Council.

10. Command. Be in command of all officers appointed for police work and be responsible for the care, maintenance and use of all vehicles, equipment and materials of the department.

**30.08 DEPARTMENTAL RULES.** The Police Chief shall establish such rules, not in conflict with the Code of Ordinances, and subject to the approval of the Council, as may be necessary for the operation of the department.

**30.09 SUMMONING AID.** Any peace officer making a legal arrest may orally summon as many persons as the officer reasonably finds necessary to aid the officer in making the arrest.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 804.17)*

**30.10 TAKING WEAPONS.** Any person who makes an arrest may take from the person arrested all items which are capable of causing bodily harm which the arrested person may have within such person's control to be disposed of according to law.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 804.18)*

**30.11 CONTRACT LAW ENFORCEMENT.** In lieu of the appointment of a police chief by the Mayor as provided by Section 30.06, the Council may contract with the County Sheriff or any other qualified lawful entity to provide law enforcement services within the City and in such event the Sheriff or such other entity shall have and exercise the powers and duties of the Police Chief as provided herein.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 28E.30)*

[The next page is 155]

## CHAPTER 35

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

35.01 Establishment and Purpose  
35.02 Organization  
35.03 Approved by Council  
35.04 Training  
35.05 Compensation  
35.06 Election of Officers  
35.07 Fire Chief: Duties

35.08 Obedience to Fire Chief  
35.09 Constitution  
35.10 Accidental Injury Insurance  
35.11 Liability Insurance  
35.12 Calls Outside District  
35.13 Mutual Aid  
35.14 Authority to Cite Violations

**35.01 ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.** A volunteer fire department is hereby established to prevent and extinguish fires and to protect lives and property against fires, to promote fire prevention and fire safety, and to answer all emergency calls for which there is no other established agency.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.16)*

**35.02 ORGANIZATION.** The department consists of the Fire Chief and such other officers and personnel as may be authorized by the Council.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])*

**35.03 APPROVED BY COUNCIL.** No person having otherwise qualified shall be appointed to the department until such appointment is submitted to and approved by a majority of the Council members.

**35.04 TRAINING.** All members of the department shall meet the minimum training standards established by the State Fire Marshal and attend and actively participate in regular or special training drills or programs as directed by the Fire Chief.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 100B.2[4])*

**35.05 COMPENSATION.** Members of the department shall be designated by rank and receive such compensation as shall be determined by resolution of the Council.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])*

**35.06 ELECTION OF OFFICERS.** The department shall elect a Fire Chief and such other officers as its constitution and bylaws may provide. In case of absence of the Fire Chief, the officer next in rank shall be in charge and have and exercise all the powers of Fire Chief.

**35.07 FIRE CHIEF: DUTIES.** The Fire Chief shall perform all duties required of the Fire Chief by law or ordinance, including but not limited to the following:

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])*

1. **Enforce Laws.** Enforce ordinances and laws regulating fire prevention and the investigation of the cause, origin and circumstances of fires.
2. **Technical Assistance.** Upon request, give advice concerning private fire alarm systems, fire extinguishing equipment, fire escapes and exits and development of fire emergency plans.
3. **Authority at Fires.** When in charge of a fire scene, direct an operation as necessary to extinguish or control a fire, perform a rescue operation, investigate the

existence of a suspected or reported fire, gas leak, or other hazardous condition, or take any other action deemed necessary in the reasonable performance of the department's duties.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 102.2)*

4. Control of Scenes. Prohibit an individual, vehicle or vessel from approaching a fire scene and remove from the scene any object, vehicle, vessel or individual that may impede or interfere with the operation of the fire department.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 102.2)*

5. Authority to Barricade. When in charge of a fire scene, place or erect ropes, guards, barricades or other obstructions across a street, alley, right-of-way, or private property near the location of the fire or emergency so as to prevent accidents or interference with the fire fighting efforts of the fire department, to control the scene until any required investigation is complete, or to preserve evidence related to the fire or other emergency.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 102.3)*

6. Command. Be charged with the duty of maintaining the efficiency, discipline and control of the fire department. The members of the fire department shall, at all times, be subject to the direction of the Fire Chief.

7. Property. Exercise and have full control over the disposition of all fire apparatus, tools, equipment and other property used by or belonging to the fire department.

8. Notification. Whenever death, serious bodily injury, or property damage in excess of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) has occurred as a result of a fire, or if arson is suspected, notify the State Fire Marshal's Division immediately. For all fires causing an estimated damage of fifty dollars (\$50.00) or more or emergency responses by the Fire Department, file a report with the Fire Marshal's Division within ten (10) days following the end of the month. The report shall indicate all fire incidents occurring and state the name of the owners and occupants of the property at the time of the fire, the value of the property, the estimated total loss to the property, origin of the fire as determined by investigation, and other facts, statistics, and circumstances concerning the fire incidents.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 100.2 & 100.3)*

9. Right of Entry. Have the right, during reasonable hours, to enter any building or premises within the Fire Chief's jurisdiction for the purpose of making such investigation or inspection which under law or ordinance may be necessary to be made and is reasonably necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 100.12)*

10. Recommendation. Make such recommendations to owners, occupants, caretakers or managers of buildings necessary to eliminate fire hazards.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 100.13)*

11. Assist State Fire Marshal. At the request of the State Fire Marshal, and as provided by law, aid said marshal in the performance of duties by investigating, preventing and reporting data pertaining to fires.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 100.4)*

12. Records. Cause to be kept records of the fire department personnel, fire fighting equipment, depreciation of all equipment and apparatus, the number of

responses to alarms, their cause and location, and an analysis of losses by value, type and location of buildings.

13. Reports. Compile and submit to the Mayor and Council an annual report of the status and activities of the department as well as such other reports as may be requested by the Mayor or Council.

**35.08 OBEDIENCE TO FIRE CHIEF.** No person shall willfully fail or refuse to comply with any lawful order or direction of the Fire Chief.

**35.09 CONSTITUTION.** The department shall adopt a constitution and bylaws as they deem calculated to accomplish the object contemplated, and such constitution and bylaws and any change or amendment to such constitution and bylaws before being effective, must be approved by the Council.

**35.10 ACCIDENTAL INJURY INSURANCE.** The Council shall contract to insure the City against liability for worker's compensation and against statutory liability for the costs of hospitalization, nursing, and medical attention for volunteer fire fighters injured in the performance of their duties as fire fighters whether within or outside the corporate limits of the City. All volunteer fire fighters shall be covered by the contract.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 85.2, 85.61 and Sec. 410.18)*

**35.11 LIABILITY INSURANCE.** The Council shall contract to insure against liability of the City or members of the department for injuries, death or property damage arising out of and resulting from the performance of departmental duties within or outside the corporate limits of the City.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 670.2 & 517A.1)*

**35.12 CALLS OUTSIDE FIRE DISTRICT.** The department shall answer calls to fires and other emergencies outside the Fire District if the Fire Chief determines that such emergency exists and that such action will not endanger persons and property within the Fire District.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.4 [2 & 3])*

**35.13 MUTUAL AID.** Subject to approval by resolution of the Council, the department may enter into mutual aid agreements with other legally constituted fire departments. Copies of any such agreements shall be filed with the Clerk.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.4 [2 & 3])*

**35.14 AUTHORITY TO CITE VIOLATIONS.** Fire officials acting under the authority of Chapter 100 of the Code of Iowa may issue citations in accordance to Chapter 805 of the Code of Iowa, for violations of state and/or local fire safety regulations.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 100.41)*

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## CHAPTER 36

### EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICE

36.01 Ambulance Service  
36.02 Staffing  
36.03 Bylaws; Rules and Regulations  
36.04 Compensation  
36.05 Employment Status

36.06 Worker's Compensation and Liability Insurance  
36.07 Providing Service Outside the Corporate Limits  
36.08 Fees Established  
36.09 Calculation of Fees  
36.10 Payment of Fees

**36.01 AMBULANCE SERVICE.** A department is hereby created and shall be known as the Rolfe Area Ambulance Service, which shall have the authority to equip an ambulance and rescue unit in the manner agreed upon with the Council.

**36.02 STAFFING.** The personnel required for manning and operating the ambulance service shall be chosen by the Council from a list of volunteers. A department supervisor shall be chosen by and from the department personnel, subject to the approval of the Council. The department supervisor shall represent the department in all matters before the Council.

**36.03 BYLAWS; RULES AND REGULATIONS.** The department shall submit to the Council for approval bylaws and/or rules and regulations for the operation of the department that are in accordance with the Council standards, rules and regulations and all applicable State and Federal laws, rules and regulations. The rules and regulations shall include and shall not be limited to provisions governing emergencies having priority over transfers and service being provided outside the City limits. The power and authority of the Rolfe Area Ambulance Service includes:

1. Training. Designating personnel, with Council approval, to attend schools and courses concerned with ambulance service and all reasonably related subjects.
2. Purchase of Equipment. Recommending to the Council the purchase of such equipment as the department deems necessary for the proper operation of the service.
3. Maintenance of Equipment. Maintaining all vehicles and equipment.
4. Expenditures. Preparing a preliminary budget for the Council's consideration and administering the department's approved budget in a manner prescribed by the Council for all City departments.
5. Other. Performing all other acts which are reasonably necessary to the operation of the ambulance department.

**36.04 COMPENSATION.** Operating personnel shall be compensated under the terms of a schedule of compensation to be established by resolution of the Council.

**36.05 EMPLOYMENT STATUS.** Personnel providing ambulance service shall be considered to be employees of the City while in the performance of all duties and services reasonably connected with the operation of the department, for the purpose of the application of worker's compensation statutes and for the purpose of the application of liability insurance coverage.

**36.06 WORKER'S COMPENSATION AND LIABILITY INSURANCE.** The City shall purchase sufficient insurance to cover all personnel providing ambulance service under the worker's compensation statutes of the State and shall purchase sufficient insurance to protect the City against loss from damages or public liability resulting from the operation of the department. The amount of such insurance shall be determined by the Council.

**36.07 PROVIDING SERVICE OUTSIDE THE CORPORATE LIMITS.** The Rolfe Area Ambulance Service department is authorized to respond to calls outside the corporate limits of the City and to transport patients to such locations as may be necessary in individual circumstances. The department shall establish policies, subject to Council approval, for response to calls outside the corporate limits, and for the routine transfer of patients.

**36.08 FEES ESTABLISHED.** The fees for the department's service within or outside the City shall be established by resolution of the Council.

**36.09 CALCULATION OF FEES.** The Clerk shall calculate and render bills for ambulance service and all reasonably related services rendered pursuant to the Schedule of Fees fixed by the Council.

**36.10 PAYMENT OF FEES.** All ambulance service fees, and fees and charges for reasonably related emergency services, shall be due and payable upon presentation of a statement for said fees and charges to the user and/or recipient of the service, and shall be paid to the Clerk. Actions for collection of fees and charges shall be brought in the name of the City, after authorization of commencement of action by the Clerk, in the same manner as other actions by law.

[The next page is 185]