

**TOWN OF LIBERTY  
ORDINANCE # 2012-2**

**AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE 2006-1 ESTABLISHING FIRE PROTECTION  
CHARGES**

WHEREAS, 1983 Wisconsin Act 532 authorizes Towns to charge property owners a portion or all of the costs of fire protection;

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest of the Town of Liberty to charge the costs of such protection to property to owners;

NOW THEREFORE, the Town Board of Supervisors of the Town of Liberty, does ordain as follows:

Section 1 – State Authority

Pursuant to Section 60.55, 60.555, and 60.557 of Wisconsin Stats., the Town of Liberty, Vernon County hereby establishes the following policy and procedure for the payment of fire costs incurred by the Town of Liberty.

Section 2 - Liability for Fire Protection Costs

The property owners of real estate within the Town of Liberty for which fire protection is provided shall be responsible for the costs of the fire calls made to their property based upon the following schedule:

**Fire calls by the Viola Volunteer Fire Department:**

Hours \_\_\_\_\_ X Firefighters \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$8.00/hr each

Minimum charge of \$500 for all fire calls including accidents occurring within the Town of Liberty. Amounts above the minimum will be charged at the hourly rate listed above per firefighter. Accident calls shall be billed out to the vehicle owner per the fire call notice received from the Fire Chief. False fire calls not reported by the owner may be billed at the discretion of the Board.

Section 3 – Liability for Fire Calls from Fire Departments other than authorized fire departments

It is the policy of the Town of Liberty to contract with the fire department listed in Section 2 above. Any property owner requesting fire protection directly from any fire department other than listed in Section 2, shall be responsible for the full costs billed to the town from the fire call from any authorized fire department. This section shall not

apply to the costs of any other department responding at the request of an authorized department under mutual aid.

Section 4 – Billing and Payment Procedure

The costs of fire calls as outlined above shall be billed by the Town Clerk to the property owner and paid to the Town Treasurer within 60 days of the date of the bill. The failure to pay the bill within 60 days will result in interest being charged at the rate of 1 1/2 percent per month from the date of the bill. Those bills remaining outstanding, including interest, for more than 90 days as of November 1 of any year shall become a lien against the real estate from which fire protection was provided and shall be placed on the tax roll as a delinquent special charge pursuant to Section 66.60 of Wisconsin Statutes.

Section 5 – Separability of Provisions

Should any section or provisions of this ordinance be declared invalid, such decisions shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

Section 6 – Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage and posting as provided by law.

Adopted this 13th day of August, 2012 by the Town Board of Supervisors of the Town of Liberty, Vernon County.

Attested to by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
/s/ Kevin Dempsey, Town Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
/s/ Lori Polhamus, Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
/s/ Wanda Lewison, Town Supervisor

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/s/ Ron Trampe, Town Supervisor

Original Ordinance 2006-1  
Passed: 1/9/2006  
Posted in 3 places: 1/15/2006  
Published: 1/18/2006  
Amended: 7/12/2010 to remove Equipment billing

