

CHAPTER 24

MOTOR VEHICLE CODE

ARTICLE I - DEFINITIONS

24-1-1 **ILLINOIS VEHICLE CODE; DEFINITIONS ADOPTED.** The Illinois Vehicle Code, **Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 625, Chapter 1**, entitled "**Title and Definitions**", as passed, approved and amended by the Illinois General Assembly is hereby adopted by the City, the provisions thereof shall be controlling within the corporate limits of the City.

ARTICLE II - GENERAL REGULATIONS

24-2-1 **OBEDIENCE TO POLICE.** Members of the Police Department, Special Police, Auxiliary Police and Marshals assigned to traffic duty are hereby authorized to direct all traffic in accordance with the provisions of this Article or in emergencies as public safety or convenience may require, and it shall be unlawful for any person to fail or refuse to comply with any lawful order, signal or direction of a policeman. Except in cases of emergency, it shall be unlawful for any person not authorized by law to direct or attempt to direct traffic. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/11-203)**

24-2-2 **SCENE OF FIRE.** The Fire Department officer in command or any fireman designated by him may exercise the powers and authority of a policeman in directing traffic at the scene of any fire or where the Fire Department has responded to an emergency call for so long as the Fire Department equipment is on the scene in the absence of or in assisting the Police Department.

24-2-3 **SIGNS AND SIGNALS.** It shall be unlawful for the driver of any vehicle to disobey the instructions of any traffic sign or signal placed in view by authority of the corporate authorities or in accordance with the laws of the State of Illinois except upon direction of a police officer. All signs and signals established by direction of the governing body shall conform to the **Illinois State Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways**. **(See 625 ILCS 5/11-301)**

24-2-4 UNAUTHORIZED SIGNS. No person shall place, maintain or display upon or in view of any street, any unauthorized sign, signal, marking, light, reflector or device which purports to be or is an imitation of or resembles an official traffic-control device or railroad sign or signal, or which attempts to direct the movement of traffic, nor shall any person place, maintain or display upon or in view of any street, any other sign which hides from view or interferes with the movement of traffic or effectiveness of any traffic-control device or any railroad sign or signal, and no person shall place or maintain, nor shall any public authority permit upon any highway, any traffic sign or signal bearing thereon any commercial advertising. No tree, bush or foliage of any kind shall be so placed, maintained, allowed to remain, or be displayed upon either public or private property in such a manner as to hide from view or interfere with the movement of traffic or the effectiveness of any traffic-control device, sign or signal.

24-2-5 INTERFERENCE WITH SIGNS OR SIGNALS. It shall be unlawful for any person to deface, injure, move or interfere with any official traffic sign or signal.

24-2-6 ADVERTISING SIGNS. It shall be unlawful to maintain anywhere in the City any sign, signal, marking or device other than a traffic sign or signal authorized by the City Council or the Illinois State Department of Public Works and Public Buildings, which purports to be or is an imitation of or resembles an official traffic-control device or railroad sign or signal in view of any street or highway, and it shall be unlawful to place or maintain any sign which hides from view any lawful traffic-control device. It shall be unlawful to maintain or operate any flashing or rotating beacon of light in view of any street or highway. **(See Chapters 27 and 33) (Also See Chapter 40 - Zoning Code)**

24-2-7 ANIMALS OR BICYCLES. Any person riding a bicycle or an animal or driving any animal drawing a vehicle upon any street shall be subject to the provisions of this Code applicable to the driver of a vehicle, except those provisions which can have no application to one riding a bicycle or driving or riding an animal. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/11-206)**

24-2-8 LAMPS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT ON BICYCLES.
(A) Every bicycle, when in use at nighttime, shall be equipped with a lamp on the front which shall emit a white light visible from a distance of at least **five hundred (500) feet** to the front and with a red reflector on the rear of a type approved by the Department which shall be visible from all distances of **one hundred (100) feet** to **six hundred (600) feet** to the rear when

directly in front of lawful lower beams of headlights on a motor vehicle. A lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of **five hundred (500) feet** to the rear may be used in addition to the red reflector.

(B) A bicycle shall not be equipped with, nor shall any person use any siren upon a bicycle.

(C) Every bicycle shall be equipped with a brake which will adequately control movement of and stop and hold such bicycle.

(D) No person shall sell a new bicycle or pedal for use on a bicycle that is not equipped with a reflex reflector or conforming to specifications prescribed by the State on each pedal, visible from the front and rear of the bicycle during darkness from a distance of **two hundred (200) feet**.

(E) No person shall sell or offer for sale a new bicycle that is not equipped with side reflectors. Side reflectors shall be visible from each side of the bicycle from a distance of **five hundred (500) feet** and shall be essentially colorless or red to the rear of the center of the bicycle and essentially colorless or amber to the front of the center of the bicycle provided. The requirements of this paragraph may be met by reflective materials which shall be at least **three-sixteenths (3/16) of an inch** wide on each side of each tire or rim to indicate as clearly as possible the continuous circular shape and size of the tires or rims of such bicycle and which reflective materials may be of the same color on both the front and rear tire or rim. Such reflectors shall conform to specifications prescribed by the State.

(F) No person shall sell or offer for sale a new bicycle that is not equipped with an essentially colorless front-facing reflector.

(G) Any person charged with a violation of this Section shall pay a fine of **One Dollar (\$1.00)** for the first offense and for a similar charge during the same year a fine of **Five Dollars (\$5.00)**. (See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/11-1507)

ARTICLE III - STOP AND THROUGH STREETS

24-3-1 **THROUGH STREETS.** The streets and parts of streets of the City designated by ordinance as "through streets" are hereby declared to be through streets. The driver of a vehicle shall stop at the entrance to a through street and shall yield the right-of-way to other vehicles which have entered the intersection or which are approaching so close on a through street as to constitute an immediate hazard unless directed otherwise by the traffic officer. **See Schedule "A" for applicable through and stop streets.**

24-3-2 **ONE-WAY STREETS OR ALLEYS.** It shall be unlawful to operate any vehicle on any streets or alleys designated as one-way streets or alleys by ordinance in any direction other than that so designated. **See Schedule "B" for the designated one-way streets and alleys. (See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/11-208)**

24-3-3 **STOP STREETS.** The driver of a vehicle shall stop in obedience to a stop sign at an intersection where a stop sign is erected pursuant to ordinance at one or more entrances thereto and shall proceed cautiously, yielding to the vehicles not so obliged to stop which are within the intersection or approaching so close as to constitute an immediate hazard, unless traffic at such intersection is controlled by a police officer on duty, in which event, the directions of the police officer shall be complied with. **See Schedule "A" for designated stop intersections. (See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/11-302)**

24-3-4 **YIELD RIGHT-OF-WAY STREETS.** The driver of a vehicle approaching a yield sign, in obedience to such sign, shall slow down to a speed reasonable for the existing conditions and if required for safety to stop, shall stop at a clearly marked stop line, but if none, before entering the crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or if none, then at the point nearest the intersecting roadway where the driver has a view of approaching traffic on the intersecting roadway. After slowing or stopping, the driver shall yield the right-of-way to any vehicle in the intersection or approaching on another roadway so closely as to constitute an immediate hazard during the time such driver is moving across or within the intersection. **(See Schedule "K")**

24-3-5 **POSTING SIGNS.** Appropriate signs shall be posted to show all through, stop and yield right-of-way streets, all one-way streets and alleys and all stop intersections. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/11-304)**

24-3-6 **SAFE ROUTES.**
(A) On school days when school children are present from **one-half (1/2) hour** before the beginning of school to **one-half (1/2) hour** after the beginning of school and from **one-half (1/2) hour** before the end of school to **one-half (1/2) hour** after the end of school Northwest Cross Street shall be a one-way south bound street from its intersection with Harrison Street to its intersection with Lincoln Street.

(B) The said portion of Northwest Cross Street during the said time periods shall be divided as follows:

- (1) The eastern portion of said Northwest Cross Street shall be used by drivers that physically park their vehicles and exit them to assist students to and from Brown County Elementary School;
- (2) The western portion shall be used by drivers that will temporarily stop to allow students to exit or enter vehicles without the driver exiting the vehicle; and
- (3) The center portion of said Northwest Cross Street shall be used for one-way south bound traffic flow not to exceed the stated speed limits with access to parking on the eastern portion or drop off on the western portion, or for through traffic extending past the designated zone.

(Ord. No. 11-05; 01-18-11)

ARTICLE IV - DRIVING RULES

24-4-1 ILLINOIS VEHICLE CODE; RULES OF THE ROAD ADOPTED.

The Illinois Vehicle Code, **Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 625, Section 11**, entitled "**Rules of the Road**", as passed, approved and amended by the Illinois General Assembly is hereby adopted by the City and the provisions thereof shall be controlling within the corporate limits of the City except for the following changes, deletions and omissions:

(A) **Omissions:**

- (1) Omit Sections 11-207, 11-208.1, 11-208.2, 11-209.1, 11-302, 11-303, 11-310(f), 11-313, 11-401 to and including 11-416, 11-500 to and including 11-502, 11-602, 11-603, 11-604, 11-606(b), 11-608, 11-1419, and 11-1422.

(B) **Changes and Additions:**

- (1) Change 11-904(a) to read: "Preferential right-of-way at an intersection may be indicated by stop or yield signs as authorized by this Code."
- (2) Change 11-1416(a) to read: "Any person who shall willfully and unnecessarily attempt to delay, hinder or obstruct any other person in lawfully driving and traveling upon or along any highway within this State or who shall offer for barter or sale, merchandise on said highway so as to interfere with the effective movement of traffic shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a violation of this Code."

24-4-2 DRIVING RULES.

(A) **Careless Driving.** It shall be unlawful to operate a vehicle in the City in a careless manner so as to interfere with the safe or lawful operation of any other vehicle or so as to interfere with or to injure, damage, or endanger persons or property engaged in the lawful use of the street.

(B) **Drag Racing Unlawful.** No person shall be a participant in drag racing as defined by **625 ILCS Sec. 5/11-504.**

(C) **Fleeing or Attempting to Elude Police Officer.** Any driver or operator of a motor vehicle who, having been given a visual or audible signal by a police officer directing such driver or operator to bring his vehicle to a stop, willfully fails to or refuses to obey such direction, increases his speed, extinguishes his lights or otherwise flees or attempts to elude the officer is

guilty of a violation of this Chapter. The signal given by the police officer may be by hand, voice, siren, red or blue light. Provided, however, the officer giving such signal shall be in police uniform and if driving a vehicle, such vehicle shall be marked showing it to be an official police vehicle.

(D) **Unlawful Possession of Highway Sign or Marker.** The Department of Local Authorities with reference to traffic-control signals, signs or markers owned by the Department of Local Authorities are authorized to indicate the ownership of such signs, signals or markers on the back of such devices in letters not less than **three-eighths (3/8) of an inch** in height, by use of a metal stamp, etching or other permanent means and except for employees of the Department of Local Authorities, police officers, contractors and their employees engaged in highway construction, contract or work on the highway approved by the Department of Local Authorities, it is a violation of this Chapter for any person to possess such sign, signal or marker so identified. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/11-313)**

(E) **General Speed Restrictions.** The speed limits on the various streets shall be approved by the City Council, but shall not exceed **twenty miles per hour (20 MPH)** in a school zone and not to exceed **twenty-five miles per hour (25 MPH)** on a residential street; otherwise, **thirty miles per hour (30 MPH)** on an arterial street unless otherwise posted. **(See Schedule "J") (See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/11-604)**

(F) **Special Speed Limit While Passing Schools.** No person shall drive a motor vehicle at a speed in excess of **twenty miles per hour (20 MPH)** while passing a school zone or while traveling upon any public thoroughfare on or across which children pass going to and from school during school days when school children are present.

This Section shall not be applicable unless appropriate signs are posted upon streets and maintained by the City or State wherein the school zone is located. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/11-605)**

(G) **Failure to Reduce Speed.** A vehicle shall be driven upon the streets and alleys of this City at a speed which is reasonable and proper with regard to traffic conditions and the use of the street or alley. The fact that the vehicle does not exceed the applicable maximum speed limit does not relieve the driver of the duty to decrease speed when approaching and crossing an intersection or when special hazard exists with respect to pedestrian or other traffic or by reason of weather or highway conditions. Speed must be decreased as may be necessary to avoid colliding with any person or vehicle on or entering the highway in compliance with legal requirements and the duty of all persons to use due care.

(H) **Traffic Lane Usage.** Whenever any roadway within the City has been divided into **two (2)** or more clearly marked lanes for traffic, a vehicle shall be driven as nearly as practicable entirely within a single lane and shall not be moved from such lane until the driver has first ascertained that such movement can be made with safety.

(I) **U-Turns Prohibited.** No driver of a vehicle shall make a "U-turn" on any street or at any intersection of any streets in the City.

24-4-3 DUTY TO REPORT ACCIDENT. The driver of a vehicle which is in any manner involved in an accident within the City shall, without unnecessary delay, notify the Police Department and shall make a report of such action. Failure to report an accident within the City within **twenty-four (24) hours** shall result in arrests of the person or persons involved. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/11-415)**

24-4-4 TRANSPORTING LIQUOR IN VEHICLES. No person shall transport, carry, possess or have any alcoholic liquor within the passenger area of any motor vehicle in this City except in the original container and with the seal unbroken. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/11-502)**

24-4-5 EXCESSIVE NOISE - STOPPED VEHICLE. No operator of a motor vehicle shall, when the motor vehicle is stopped, unreasonably accelerate the engine thereof with the gears of the vehicle in neutral, thereby causing an unreasonably loud or excessive noise.

24-4-6 EXCESSIVE NOISE - WHEELS. No operator of a motor vehicle shall, when the motor vehicle is stopped, accelerate the engine with the gears of such vehicle in neutral and while so accelerating the engine, shift the gears of the vehicle into a forward or reverse movement, thereby causing an unreasonably loud noise with the drive wheels of the vehicle.

24-4-7 EXCESSIVE NOISE - SQUEALING TIRES. No operator of a motor vehicle shall cause the wheels of such vehicle to spin violently, thereby causing an unreasonably loud or excessive noise. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/11-505)**

24-4-8 **RECKLESS, NEGLIGENT OR CARELESS DRIVING.** It shall be unlawful to operate any vehicle in the City in a careless, reckless, negligent or wanton manner, or carelessly so as to endanger life or property.

24-4-9 **EXCESSIVE NOISE WHILE DRIVING.** No operator of a motor vehicle shall, when operating the vehicle, accelerate the vehicle or rapidly stop the vehicle causing an unreasonably loud noise.

24-4-10 **RIDING ON RUNNING BOARDS.** It shall be unlawful for any person to ride upon the fenders, running boards or outside step of any vehicle.

ARTICLE V - EQUIPMENT OF VEHICLES

24-5-1 **ILLINOIS VEHICLE CODE; EQUIPMENT OF VEHICLES ADOPTED.** The Illinois Vehicle Code, **Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 625, Section 12**, entitled "**Equipment of Vehicles**", as passed, approved, and amended by the Illinois General Assembly is hereby adopted by the City and the provisions thereof shall be controlling within the corporate limits of the City. **(See 625 ILCS Secs. 5/12-605, 5/12-605.1; and 5/12-605.2)**

24-5-2 **MUFFLER.** No motor vehicle shall be operated on any street unless such vehicle is provided with a muffler in efficient actual working condition; and the use of a cut-out is prohibited. No muffler shall cause an unreasonably loud or excessive noise. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/12-602)**

24-5-3 **ENGINE BRAKING.** It shall be unlawful for the driver of any motor vehicle to use or operate or cause to be used or operated within the City any mechanical exhaust device, or engine compression brake, designed to be used in the braking or deceleration of any truck or other vehicle which results in the excessive, loud, unusual, or explosive noise from such vehicle, or otherwise engage in engine compression braking. It is an affirmative defense to a violation of this Section that engine compression braking was used on an emergency basis to avoid damage to property or to avoid personal injury. **(Ord. No. 07-08-01; 08-21-07)**

ARTICLE VI - PARKING RULES

24-6-1 **TIME LIMIT PARKING.** It shall be unlawful to park any vehicle for a period of time in excess of the amount of time designated by law and so posted. **See Schedule "H" for the streets designated as restricted parking areas.**

24-6-2 **PARKING FOR SALE OR REPAIR.** No person shall park a vehicle upon any street for the purpose of:
 (A) displaying such vehicle for sale; or
 (B) washing, greasing or repairing such vehicle, except when emergency repairs are necessary.

24-6-3 **STOPPING, STANDING OR PARKING PROHIBITED IN SPECIFIED PLACES.**

(A) Except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic, or in compliance with law or the directions of a police officer or official traffic-control devices, no person shall:

- (1) **Stop, Stand or Park a Vehicle:**
 - (a) On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street.
 - (b) On a sidewalk.
 - (c) Within an intersection.
 - (d) On a crosswalk.
 - (e) Between a safety zone and the adjacent curb or within **thirty (30) feet** of points on the curb immediately opposite the ends of a safety zone, unless a different length is indicated by signs or markings.
 - (f) Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when stopping, standing or parking would obstruct traffic.
 - (g) Upon any bridge or other elevated structure upon a highway or within a highway tunnel.
 - (h) On any railroad tracks.
 - (i) At any place where official signs prohibit stopping.
 - (j) On any controlled-access highway.
 - (k) In the area between roadways of a divided highway, including crossovers.
 - (l) In any alley that is open and maintained.
- (2) **Stand or Park a Vehicle** (whether occupied or not, except momentarily to pick up or discharge passengers):

- (a) In front of a public or private driveway.
 - (b) Within **fifteen (15) feet** of a fire hydrant.
 - (c) Within **twenty (20) feet** of a crosswalk at an intersection.
 - (d) Within **thirty (30) feet** upon the approach to any flashing signal, stop sign, yield sign or traffic-control signal located at the side of the roadway.
 - (e) Within **twenty (20) feet** of the driveway entrance to any fire station and on the side of a street opposite the entrance to any fire station within **seventy-five (75) feet** of such entrance (when properly sign-posted).
 - (f) At any place where official signs prohibit standing or parking.
- (3) **Parking a Vehicle** (whether occupied or not, except temporarily for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading property or passengers):
- (a) within **fifty (50) feet** of the nearest rail of a railroad crossing;
 - (b) at any place where official signs prohibit parking;
 - (c) in yellow zones.
- (B) No person shall move a vehicle not lawfully under his control into any such prohibited area or away from a curb such distance as is unlawful.
- (C) Schedules "F", "H" and "I" shall list all applicable no-parking zones.
- (See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/11-303)**

24-6-4 PARKING FOR THE HANDICAPPED.

(A) **Designated Parking.** Certain parking spaces within the confines of the City shall be designated for use by handicapped persons' vehicles only and will be posted with appropriate signs to that effect.

(B) **Use of Designated Handicapped Parking.** The use of designated handicapped parking locations, duly posted and signed shall to that effect, be open to any vehicle which bears the appropriate handicapped Illinois Registration Plate issued by the Secretary of State for the State of Illinois, or a valid handicapped parking permit issued by another governmental agency or which bears a handicapped card furnished in accordance with **Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 625; Section 5/11-1301.1, et. seq.** furnished by the City.

(C) **Application for Illinois Handicapped Registration Plate.** The issuance of an Illinois Handicapped Motor Vehicle Registration Plate shall be made with the Secretary of State of the State of Illinois at any facility provided and approved for that purpose by the Secretary of State. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/11-1301.2)**

(D) **Penalty.** Any vehicle parked in violation of this Article in a posted designated handicapped space which does not bear an Illinois Handicapped Registration Plate, or a valid handicapped parking permit issued by another governmental agency of a City Handicapped Registration Card will be ticketed and the vehicle will be removed in accordance with departmental policies and in accordance with **Section 5/11-1302, Chapter 625 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes.** The registered owner of the vehicle as ascertained by the registration plates of the vehicle will be presumed to be in control of the vehicle and will be fined **Fifty Dollars (\$50.00).** The same registered owner will be held liable for the cost of removal of the vehicle and must pay that cost, plus storage charges, if any, prior to the release of the vehicle.

(E) **Handicapped Parking Areas.** Those places designated as "Handicapped Parking Spaces" are listed in **Schedule "O".**

24-6-5 LOAD LIMITS.

(A) **Established.** There is hereby established "gross load limit" on City streets. The term "gross load limit" shall mean the total weight of a vehicle and the load it is carrying. The specified streets and the load limits are hereby listed in the Motor Vehicle Schedules at the end of this Chapter.

(B) **Restrictions.** It shall be unlawful to operate a vehicle upon any street where the operation is prohibited by this Section and where such signs of prohibition are posted, except that a vehicle may be driven on such street for not more than the minimum distance necessary for the purpose of making deliveries or picking up loads.

(C) **Exceptions.** This Chapter shall not include pickup trucks, trucks operated by the City maintenance and repairs on the street or the operation of a vehicle owned by the U.S. government or State of Illinois while on lawful business of these agencies.

24-6-6 TOWING CARS AWAY. The Police Department and all members thereof assigned to traffic duty are hereby authorized to remove and tow away, or have removed and towed away by commercial towing service, any car, boat, trailer, or other vehicle illegally parked in any place where such parked vehicle creates or constitutes a traffic hazard, blocks the use of a fire hydrant or obstructs or may obstruct the movement of any emergency vehicle; or any vehicle which has been parked in any public street or other public place for a period of **twenty-four (24) hours.**

Vehicles towed away shall be stored on any City property or in a public garage or parking lot and shall be restored to the owner or operator thereof after payment of the expense incurred by the City in removing and storing such vehicle(s).

24-6-7 PARKING VIOLATIONS. Any person accused of a violation of an ordinance prohibiting parking of a vehicle in a designated area, or restricting the length of time a vehicle may be there parked, may settle and compromise a claim against him or her for such illegal parking by paying to the municipality the sum of **Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00)** within **forty-eight (48) hours** of the time such alleged offense was committed. Such payment may be made at the City Hall and a receipt shall be issued for all monies so received, and such monies shall be credited to the parking fund. **(Ord. No. 97-98-01; 06-09-97)**

24-6-8 TRAFFIC CITATIONS; PAYMENT OF FINES. The members of the police department are authorized to enforce the traffic code of this City by the placing upon any vehicle in violation of said Code a violation notice stating the nature of the violation and the penalty imposed for such offense. The notice shall be in the following form, viz: **(Ord. No. 97-98-01; 06-09-97)**

PARKING TICKET

MAKE _____ LICENSE NO. _____ STATE _____

LOCATION _____ METER NO. _____

DATE _____ TIME _____ AM
 PM

Your vehicle is in violation of _____

The amount of your fine is \$ _____

If payment is received within _____ hours no further action will be taken.

**MT. STERLING POLICE DEPARTMENT
145 W. MAIN ST.
MT. STERLING, IL 62353**

OFFICER BADGE NO.

24-6-9 **PRIMA FACIE PROOF.** The fact that a vehicle which is illegally parked or operated is registered in the name of a person shall be considered prima facie proof that such person was in control of the vehicle at the time of such violation.

24-6-10 **PARKING TICKETS - STATE STATUTE.** The City Council intends to utilize **Illinois Compiled Statutes, Chapter 625; Section 5/6-306.5** and the procedure set forth therein.

The appropriate authorities are hereby authorized to utilize the statute and the procedure set forth therein for processing parking tickets.

ARTICLE VII - ABANDONED VEHICLES

24-7-1 **DEFINITIONS.** For the purpose of this Code, the following words shall have the meanings ascribed to them as follows:

"ABANDONED VEHICLE" shall mean all motor vehicles or other vehicles in a state of disrepair, unregistered or unlicensed rendering the vehicle incapable of being driven in its condition; or an "inoperable motor vehicle" as defined in **Section 25-4-1**; or any motor vehicle or other vehicle that has not been moved or used for **seven (7) consecutive days** or more and is apparently deserted.

"ANTIQUE VEHICLE" means any motor vehicle or other vehicle **twenty-five (25) years** of age or older.

"COMPONENT PART" means any part of a vehicle other than a tire having a manufacturer's identification number or an identification number issued by the Secretary of State.

"DERELICT VEHICLE" means any inoperable, unregistered, or discarded motor vehicle, regardless of title, having lost its characteristic as a substantial property and left unattended without justification on the owner's, lienholder's or other legally entitled person's land contrary to the public policy expressed in this Code.

"HIGHWAY" means any street, alley or public way within this Municipality.

"REMOVE" means to remove, deface, cover, or destroy.

"VEHICLE" means every device in, upon or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a street or highway, whether subject to or exempt from registration, excepting, however, bicycles, snowmobiles and devices used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks.

24-7-2 **ABANDONMENT.**

(A) **Highway.** The abandonment of a motor vehicle or other vehicle or part thereof on any highway in this Municipality is unlawful and subject to penalties as set forth herein.

(B) **Private Property.** The abandonment of a vehicle or any part thereof on private or public property, other than a highway in view of the general public, anywhere in this Municipality is unlawful, except on property of the owner, or bailee of such abandoned vehicle.

(C) **Owner's Property.** A vehicle or any part thereof so abandoned on private property shall be authorized for removal by the Police Department, after a waiting period of **seven (7) days** or more, or may be removed immediately if determined to be a hazardous dilapidated motor vehicle under **Ch. 65 Sec. 5/11-40-3 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes**. A violation of this Section is subject to penalties as set forth in **Section 1-1-20** of the City Code. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/4-201)**

24-7-3 POSSESSION OF VEHICLE BY OTHER PARTY; TOWING.

When an abandoned, lost, stolen or unclaimed motor vehicle or other vehicle comes into the temporary possession or custody of a person in this Municipality who is not the owner, lienholder or other legally entitled person of the vehicle, such person shall immediately notify the Police Department when the vehicle is within the corporate limits of the Municipality. Upon receipt of such notification, the Police Department or designated representative shall authorize a towing service to remove and take possession of the abandoned, lost, stolen or unclaimed motor vehicle or other vehicle. The towing service will safely keep the towed vehicle and its contents, maintain a record of the tow, as set forth in **Section 24-7-5**, until the vehicle is claimed by the owner, lienholder, or any other person legally entitled to possession thereof or until it is disposed of as provided in this Chapter. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/4-202)**

24-7-4 REMOVAL OF MOTOR VEHICLES OR OTHER VEHICLES - TOWING OR HAULING AWAY.

(A) When a vehicle is abandoned or left unattended on a highway in an urban district for **ten (10) hours** or more, its removal by a towing service may be authorized by the Police Department.

(B) When an abandoned, unattended, wrecked, burned or partially dismantled vehicle is creating a traffic hazard because of its position in relation to the highway or its physical appearance is causing the impeding of traffic, its immediate removal from the highway or private property adjacent to the highway by a towing service may be authorized by the Police Department.

(C) When a vehicle removal from either public or private property is authorized by the Police Department, the owner, lienholder or other legally entitled person of the vehicle shall be responsible for all towing costs.

(D) The remaining provisions of **Section 4-203 of Chapter 625**, of the **Illinois Compiled Statutes** are hereby adopted by reference and the provisions thereof shall be controlling within the corporate limits of this Municipality. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/4-203)**

24-7-5 POLICE RESPONSIBILITIES. When a vehicle is authorized to be towed away as provided herein, the Police Department shall keep and maintain a record of the vehicle towed, listing by color, year of manufacture, manufacturer's trade name, manufacturer's series name, body style, vehicle identification number and license plate year and number displayed on the vehicle. The record shall also include the date and hour of tow, location towed from, location towed to, reason for towing and the name of the officer authorizing the tow. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/4-204)**

24-7-6 **UNKNOWN OWNER.** When the Police Department does not know the identity of the registered owner, lienholder or other legally entitled person, they will cause the motor vehicle registration records of the State of Illinois to be searched by a directed communication to the Secretary of State for the purpose of obtaining the required ownership information.

The Police Department authorizing the impoundment shall cause the stolen motor vehicle files of the Illinois State Police to be searched by a directed communication to the Illinois State Police for stolen or wanted information of the vehicle. The information determined from these record searches shall be used by the Police Department in sending notification by certified mail to the owner, lienholder or legally entitled person advising where the vehicle is held, requesting a disposition to be made and setting forth public sale information. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/4-205)**

24-7-7 **IDENTIFYING AND TRACING VEHICLE.** When the registered owner, lienholder, or other person legally entitled to the possession of a motor vehicle or other vehicle cannot be identified from the registration files of this State or from the registration files of a foreign state, if applicable, the Police Department shall notify the Illinois State Police for the purpose of identifying the vehicle's owner, lienholder, or other person legally entitled to the possession of the vehicle. The information obtained by the Illinois State Police shall be immediately forwarded to the Police Department having custody of the vehicle for notification purposes as set forth in **Section 24-7-6** of this Chapter. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/4-206)**

24-7-8 **RECLAIMED VEHICLES - EXPENSES.** Any time before a motor vehicle or other vehicle is sold at public sale or disposed of as provided in **Section 24-7-9**, the owner, lienholder, or other person legally entitled to its possession may reclaim the vehicle by presenting to the Police Department proof of ownership or proof of the right to possession of the vehicle. No vehicle shall be released to the owner, lienholder, or other legally entitled person under this Section until all towing and storage charges have been paid. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/4-207)**

24-7-9 **DISPOSAL OF UNCLAIMED VEHICLE.** Whenever an abandoned, lost, stolen, or unclaimed motor vehicle or other vehicle **seven (7) years** of age or newer remains unclaimed by the registered owner, lienholder, or other person legally entitled to its possession for a period of **thirty (30) days** after notice has been given as provided herein, the Police Department having possession of the vehicle shall cause it to be sold at public auction to a person licensed as an automatic parts recycler, rebuilder or scrap

processor under **Article 5 of Chapter 625, of the Illinois Compiled Statutes**. Notice of the time and place of the sale shall be posted in a conspicuous place for at least **ten (10) days** prior to the sale on the premises where the vehicle has been impounded. At least **ten (10) days** prior to the sale, the Police Department shall cause a notice of the time and place to be sent by certified mail to the registered owner, lienholder, or other person known by the Police Department or towing service to be legally entitled to the possession of the vehicle. Such notice shall contain a complete description of the vehicle to be sold and what steps must be taken by any legally entitled person to reclaim the vehicle.

In those instances where the certified notification specified herein has been returned by the postal authorities to the Police Department due to the addressee having moved or being unknown at the address obtained from the registration records of this State, the sending of a second certified notice shall not be required.

24-7-10 DISPOSAL OF UNCLAIMED VEHICLES WITHOUT NOTICE.

(A) **New Car.** When the identity of the registered owner, lienholder, or other person legally entitled to the possession of an abandoned, lost, or unclaimed vehicle of **seven (7) years** of age or newer cannot be determined by any means provided for in this Chapter, the vehicle may be sold as provided for in **Section 24-7-9** of this Code without notice to any person whose identity cannot be determined.

(B) **Old Car.** When an abandoned vehicle of more than **seven (7) years** of age is impounded as specified by this Chapter, it shall be kept in custody for a minimum of **ten (10) days** for the purpose of determining the identity of the registered owner and lienholder and contacting the registered owner and lienholder by the U.S. Mail, public service or in person for a determination of disposition; and an examination of the Illinois State Police stolen motor vehicle files for theft and wanted information. (At the expiration of the **ten (10) day** period without the benefit of disposition information being received from the registered owner, lienholder or other legally entitled person, the Chief of Police shall authorize the disposal of the vehicle as junk.)

(C) **Antique Vehicle.** A vehicle classified as an antique vehicle may, however, be sold to a person desiring to restore it. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/4-209)**

24-7-11 POLICE RECORD FOR DISPOSED VEHICLE. When a motor vehicle or other vehicle in the custody of the Police Department is reclaimed by the registered owner, lienholder, or other legally entitled person or when the vehicle is sold at public sale or otherwise disposed of as provided in this Chapter, a report of the transaction shall be maintained by the Police Department for a period of **one (1) year** from the date of the sale or disposal. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/4-210)**

24-7-12 **PUBLIC SALE PROCEEDS.** When a vehicle located within the corporate limits of this Municipality is authorized to be towed away by the Police Department and disposed of as set forth in this Code, the proceeds of the public sale or disposition, after the deduction of towing, storage and processing charges, shall be deposited in the municipal treasury. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/4-211)**

24-7-13 **LIABILITY.** A law enforcement officer or agency, towing service owner, operator or employee shall not be held to answer or be liable for damages in any action brought by the registered owner, former registered owner or his legal representative, lienholder, or any other person legally entitled to the possession of a vehicle when the vehicle was processed and sold or disposed of as provided by this Code. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/4-213)**

24-7-14 **PENALTY.**
(A) Any person who violates or aids and abets in the violation of this Article is guilty of a petty offense, and
(B) shall be fined not less than **Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00)** nor more than **One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)**, and
(C) shall be required by the Court to make a disposition on the abandoned or unclaimed vehicle and pay all towing and storage charges pursuant to this Article. **(See 625 ILCS Sec. 5/4-214)**

ARTICLE VIII – SNOW ROUTES

24-8-1 **SNOW ON THE STREETS.** It shall be unlawful for any person to park or allow to remain, a motor vehicle or any other vehicle, on any of the following described streets in the City for a period of **twenty-four (24) hours** or until the snow emergency is declared ended by the Mayor or the Superintendent of Streets whenever there is an accumulation of **two (2)** or more inches of snow.

STREETS

Main Street
North Street
Franklin Street
Chestnut Street
East Cross Street
Fairground Street

Washington Street
South Street
Union Street
West Cross Street
Jefferson Street
Capitol Avenue

(Ord. No. 7-1985-1986; 10-05-85)

24-8-2 **DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY.** Snow emergency shall be called into operation by the Mayor with the advice of the Superintendent of Streets. However, in the Mayor’s absence, the Superintendent of Streets and Chief of Police shall declare a snow emergency.

24-8-3 **IMPOUNDMENT OF VEHICLES.** An unattended vehicle stopped, standing or parked, or occupying any portion of a street in violation of this Article is hereby declared to be a nuisance, which may be abated by any police officer by impounding such vehicle to be removed and conveying such vehicle or by causing such vehicle to be removed and conveyed to a vehicle pound. A vehicle pound is hereby declared to be any suitable place designated by the Police Department of the City as a vehicle pound. The owner or operator of such vehicle may have the same removed from the impoundment by paying the costs and expenses of the towage and impounding of such vehicle, together with all fines and penalties.

24-8-4 **PENALTIES.** In all cases of violations herein referred to, the right to impound shall be in addition to any other remedy provided by law, and the registered owner of the vehicle at the time of the violation shall be presumed to be the violator, as well as the vehicle itself, and the actual operator thereof. Whenever any vehicle while being used without the consent of the owner shall be stopped, standing or parked in violation of any of the provisions of this Article, such owner shall not be subject to the penalty for such violations.