

RECEIVED MAY - 3 2005

City of Salisbury



147th

POLICE DEPARTMENT

ALLAN J. WEBSTER, SR.
Chief of Police



May 3, 2005



45th

699 W. SALISBURY PARKWAY
SALISBURY, MARYLAND 21801

410-548-3165

TO: John Pick
City Administrator

FROM: Chief Allan J. Webster

SUBJECT: Resolution - Amendment to False Alarm Ordinance

Attached, please find a Resolution to amend the False Alarm Ordinance. This amendment is an incentive for alarm users to correct problems with their systems which would eliminate false alarms.

Proposed Amendment:

- *If an alarm user experiences no false alarms in a continuous six (6) month period, the City of Salisbury will reimburse the user the fee of their last false alarm.*
- *To receive this reimbursement, the alarm user shall:*
 - *Initiate a request for reimbursement directed to the Finance Department.*
 - *Include with their request, a letter from a licensed alarm company that indicates their system has been thoroughly checked and is in proper working order.*

Note: Even though the alarm fee may be waived, the alarm will still be counted as a false alarm incident.

Unless you, or the Mayor, have further questions, please forward this Resolution to the City Council.

Allan J. Webster
Chief of Police

Attachment

ORDINANCE NO. 1939

An ORDINANCE of the City Council of the City of Salisbury to amend Section 8.04.050 (False Alarms) of the Salisbury Municipal Code.

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that is in the best interest of the citizens of Salisbury to amend Section 8.04.050 of the City Code in order to provide an incentive for alarm users to properly maintain alarm systems and prevent false alarms that require a response from the Salisbury Police Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it enacted and ordained by the Council of the City of Salisbury in regular session that Section 8.04.050 of the Salisbury City Code is hereby amended as follows:

8.04.50 False Alarms – Violations and Penalties.

A. If, within a calendar year, the police department responds to more than two false alarms at the same location, the following response fees will be charged to the property owner.

FALSE ALARM OCCURRENCE	FEE
1 st	\$ 0.00
2 nd	0.00
3 rd	50.00
4 th	100.00
5 th	150.00

6 th	200.00
7 th	250.00
8 th	300.00
9 th	400.00
10 th	500.00
11 th	600.00
12 th	700.00
13 th	800.00
14 th and above	1,000.00

Failure to pay said fines within ninety (90) days of notification of the violation will result in a lien on the property until fines are satisfied.

B. Newly installed alarm systems will be given a thirty (30) day grace period to allow for corrections of equipment and user errors. During the thirty (30) day period, the alarm user will be allowed unlimited false alarms, as long as steps are being taken to correct any problems. The alarm company installing the new system shall notify the police department in writing of the new installation, including the effective date.

C. The director of finance will maintain accurate records of false alarms and will bill for payment thereof by mailing said bill to the property owner of the subject location.

D. If the false alarm bill remains unpaid for more than ninety (90) days, the director of finance shall commence with the placing of a lien against the subject property by forwarding to the last known address of the owner as recorded in the real

estate assessment records of the city of Salisbury by registered or certified mail, with return receipt, a notice of lien, and such receipt shall constitute prima facie evidence of service upon such owner if it is signed either by the owner or by a person of suitable age and discretion located at such address. In the event that delivery of said notice of lien is refused by the property owner or his agent, then valid service may be accomplished by hand-delivery of same to either the property owner or a person of suitable age and discretion employed by or residing at the subject location. (Ord. 1907 (part), 2004)

E. If, after paying a false alarm fee, an alarm user experiences no false alarms for a continuous period of six (6) months, the director of finance shall reimburse the alarm user for its last false alarm fee. To receive said reimbursement, the alarm user shall do the following:

1. Make written request to the director of finance; and
2. Provide the director of finance with a letter from a licensed alarm company certifying that the alarm user's system has been inspected and is in good working order.

F. In the event of a reimbursement, the false alarm for which the reimbursement is made will remain on the record as a false alarm occurrence.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, MARYLAND, that the changes set forth in this Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage.

THIS ORDINANCE was introduced and read at a meeting of the Council of the City of Salisbury held on the _____ day of _____, 2005, and having been published as required by law, in the meantime, was finally passed by the Council on the _____ day of _____, 2005.

Brenda J. Colegrove
City Clerk

Michael Dunn
President of the City Council
of the City of Salisbury

Approved by me this _____
day of _____ 2005.

Barrie P. Tilghman
Mayor of the City of Salisbury