

ORDINANCE NO.: 2007-049

Amending the 1998 Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 24, Vehicles for Hire, Article IV, Wrecker and Towing Services, Sec. 24-207 Zone service generally; Sec. 24-208 Eligibility for participation in zone service, Sec. 24-210 New applications to participate in zone service and Sec. 24-211 Equipment for emergency wreckers; 24-hour service required

ORIGINAL
STAMPED IN RED

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council this 20th day of June, 2007, that the 1998 Code of Ordinances of The City of Columbia, South Carolina, Chapter 24, Vehicles for Hire, Article IV, Wrecker and Towing Services, Sec. 24-207 Zone service generally; Sec. 24-208 Eligibility for participation in zone service, Sec. 24-210 New applications to participate in zone service and Sec. 24-211 Equipment for emergency wreckers; 24-hour service required are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 24-207. Zone service generally.

(a) The city manager, upon the recommendation of the director of public works, shall have prepared a map of the city, divided into not less than three nor more than six zones, and shall provide that each zone be serviced by one or more firms meeting the eligibility requirements of this article. A firm may apply for zone service only for the zone within which it has its primary business location however, a firm may apply and be approved in any other zone provided it has a full independent service location in that zone. This firm must have also been licensed and operated a wrecker service in that zone for a period of two years or more. Zones serviced by firms without heavy duty equipment may be further serviced by firms having heavy duty wreckers.

(b) If more than one wrecker firm is participating in a zone, the city manager shall set up a rotation list for the performance of wrecker services in that zone. The city manager shall determine when each wrecker service shall be subject to call pursuant to the rotation list.

Sec. 24-208. Eligibility for participation in zone service.

Any firm having its main business operation within the city shall become eligible to participate in zone service as provided in section 24-207 if it has a valid license to do business in the city and if it conforms to the rules and requirements established in this article and has done so for a minimum of two years. Any deviation from the requirements of the policies established in this article or failure to provide reasonable, quick and efficient service at the rates prescribed may result in the suspension for a specified time or termination of the contract with such company by the city manager upon recommendation of the director of public works. A suspension, or termination or a waiver of the two year waiting period shall be subject to appeal to the city council upon written request within ten days after notice of suspension or termination or denial

ORIGINAL
STAMPED IN RED

for eligibility to participate in zone service.

Sec. 24-210. New applications to participate in zone service.

Any firm otherwise meeting the eligibility requirements of sections 24-208 and 24-209 and having been in the wrecker business within the requesting zone for a minimum of two years may apply for participation in zone coverage at any time. An aggrieved applicant may, upon written notice, appeal to the city council within ten (10) days after notice that its application was disapproved.

Sec. 24-211. Equipment for emergency wreckers; 24-hour service required.

(a) Generally. Every emergency wrecker proposed to be used by an applicant shall be subject to inspection in a manner determined by the chief of police, and every such wrecker, other than an emergency heavy duty wrecker, shall comply with the following minimum requirements:

- (1) Each applicant shall have at least two wreckers, one of which may be a carrier. Each unit shall be not less than one ton in size with dual rear wheels. Each wrecker shall be clearly marked with only one company's name listed on both driver and passenger side doors.
- (2) Each wrecker shall be equipped with a power-operated winch, winch line and boom, with a factory-rated lifting capacity or a city-tested capacity of not less than 8,000 pounds, single line capacity. Each wrecker shall carry as standard equipment a towing device (wheel lift or sling), towing dollies and safety chains.
- (3) Each carrier shall be a minimum of 17 feet in length, equipped with a power-operated winch with a factory-rated lifting capacity of not less than 8,000 pounds, tiedown chains and hooks.
- (4) Each wrecker and/or carrier shall be equipped with a fire extinguisher, wrecking bar, broom, shovel and approved warning devices.
- (5) Each wrecker and/or carrier and all of its equipment shall be in a safe working condition and must also display a current state department of highways and public transportation inspection sticker.
- (6) Each wrecker and/or carrier shall be equipped with a two-way radio which shall be on the frequency allocated to wrecker operators.

(b) Heavy duty wreckers. Every emergency heavy duty wrecker of not less than 2 1/2 tons in size shall meet the requirements in subsection (a) of this section and, in addition thereto, shall be equipped with a power-operated winch, winch line and boom with a factory-rated lifting capacity or a city-tested capacity of not less than 32,000 pounds, single or double line capacity, and a tow sling.

(c) Twenty-four-hour service required. Each applicant shall maintain 24-hour wrecker service and operate a two-way radio base station on a 24-hour basis.

This ordinance is effective as of final reading.

Requested by:



MAYOR

Approved by:



City Manager

Approved as to form:

Interim City Attorney

ATTEST:

City Clerk, *Interim*

Introduced: 6/6/2007
Final Reading: 6/20/2007

ORIGINAL
STAMPED IN REC