

Chapter 61

Fire Department

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Village Board of the Village of Campbellsport as indicated in article histories. Amendments noted where applicable.]

Article I

Department Established, Recognized

[Adopted 2-8-2016 (Secs. 2-226 through 2-241; 2-257 of the 2008 Code)]

§ 61-1 Established; duties.

[Amended 3-28-2016(2)]

- A. The members of the fire department of the Village are officially recognized as the fire department of the Village, and the duty of firefighting and the prevention of fires in the Village is delegated to such department. Effective November 10, 2015, the Village Board recognized that the Village fire department will provide services, operations, and training previously conducted by employees of the department, but now through the use of volunteers. The Village fire department will present the Townships of Ashford, Auburn and Osceola and the Village Board with a budget to actual report each quarter. The Village fire department will notify the above-mentioned townships and the Village annually by July of any proposed increases to fire contracts or ambulance subsidy amounts. Its organization and internal regulation shall be governed by the provisions of this article and by such bylaws adopted by the fire department as are approved by the Village Board, except as is otherwise provided by law and ordinance. Department volunteers will be provided a stipend on a monthly basis (the current month's stipend will be processed the second period of the following month).
- B. The annual election for the Fire Chief will be held during the regularly scheduled December meeting of the Village fire department. This election will be overseen by a representative designated by the Village Board. This representative will be responsible for collecting all ballots, counting them openly in front of the general assembly and reporting the final tally. Any absentee ballots will need to be received at Village Hall prior to 12:00 p.m. on the day of the election. All ballots counted must be kept at the Village hall for three months following the election, along with the list of absentee voters.

§ 61-2 Adoption of bylaws.

The fire department is authorized and directed to adopt bylaws for the control, management and government and for regulating the business and proceedings of the department, which bylaws, after adoption by majority vote of the members of the department, shall not become effective and operative until presented to and approved by the Village Board. Amendments shall be adopted in the same manner.

§ 61-3 Funds.

The Village Board shall appropriate funds to provide for operation and for such apparatus and equipment for the use of the fire department as it may deem expedient and necessary to maintain efficiency and properly protect life and property from fire.

§ 61-4 Compensation.

The officers and members of the fire department shall receive a stipend from the Village as may, from time to time, be fixed by the Village Board.

§ 61-5 Supervision of Firemen's Park and Scout Cabin.

The fire department shall continue to supervise and manage the Firemen's Park and Scout Cabin as further provided in § 14-17, the park board powers.

§ 61-6 Composition.

The fire department shall consist of: one chief, deputy or assistant chief(s), and lieutenant(s) as designated by the Fire Chief, a secretary, treasurer, one master mechanic and one assistant master mechanic, and as many drivers and firefighters who live within the fire department contracted district as may be appointed by the chief and be approved by the Village Board. At no time shall the department consist of less than 22 active members.

§ 61-7 Application for membership.

Any person desiring to be a member of the fire department may file with the secretary an application in such form as the Village Board may require. The name of any applicant approved by the members of the fire department as provided in the bylaws shall be presented to the Village Board for confirmation.

§ 61-8 Resignations.

All resignations from the department shall take the same course as applications for and appointments to membership.

§ 61-9 Office of chief; vacancy and appointment.

A vacancy in the office of chief shall be filled by appointment by a majority vote of the Village Board. It is recommended that this be done only after consultation and on recommendation of the active members of the fire department.

§ 61-10 Term and termination.

The chief shall immediately assume office and shall hold office until removed for cause by action of two-thirds of the members of the Village Board, unless sooner terminated by resignation, change of residence to outside the fire department contracted district limits, or death.

§ 61-11 Appointment of officers.

A deputy and/or assistant chief(s), and other officers of the fire department, shall be appointed by the chief from members of the department.

§ 61-12 Eligibility for office of chief or assistant chief.

No member of the department shall be eligible for the office of chief or assistant chief who has not been a member of the department for at least two years.

§ 61-13 Organization; officers.

- A. The department shall organize into one or, at the option of the chief, into two or more companies. The chief may, at any time, make transfers between companies which he deems necessary.
- B. The election of the secretary-treasurer, and such social officers as the bylaws may require, shall be held at the annual meeting of the department in such manner as therein provided. In case of any vacancy, the chief shall appoint a member in good standing to fill the office until the next annual election.

§ 61-14 Powers and duties of chief.

- A. The chief shall have the general supervision of the department, which supervision shall be subject to and not conflict with this article and the bylaws of the department. He shall be responsible for the safety of the members of the department.
- B. It shall be the duty of the chief to preside at all meetings of the department, to call special meetings, to preserve order, to decide points of order that may arise, and to enforce a rigid observance of this article and the bylaws, and to vote only in case of a tie.

- C. It shall be the duty of the chief or his designee or one of the officers of the fire department to be present at all fires, and to have complete command and entire responsibility of all firefighting operations, to plan the control of the same, to direct the action of the companies when they arrive at a fire, to observe that every company does its duty, to grant leaves of absence at a fire when he may deem it proper, and to see that the fire apparatus is kept in proper condition at all times.
- D. The chief or his designee or one of the officers of the fire department shall have the power to demote or expel any officer or member of the department for neglect or refusal to perform his departmental duties, subject to an appeal from such demotion or expulsion to the Village Board. The bylaws may also provide for expulsion for failure to participate in departmental activities or non-residence.
- E. Not later than September 1 of each year, the chief shall file with the Village Clerk/treasurer a detailed estimate of the appropriations needed for the conduct of the department during the ensuing fiscal year.
- F. It shall be the duty of the chief to submit a written report to the Village Board not later than February 1 of each year, and at such other times as he deems desirable, relating to the conditions of the various pieces of apparatus and appurtenances; the number of fires occurring since the previous report, and the date of same and loss occasioned thereby; and resignations and expulsions from the department. He shall also report upon the drill and training program of the department, together with other pertinent information, including recommendations of such improvements as he deems proper and necessary for the operation of the department.
- G. He shall enforce all fire prevention ordinances of the Village and state laws and regulations pertaining to fire prevention and shall keep citizens informed on fire prevention methods and on the activities of the department.
- H. He shall keep a fire record book of every fire to which the fire department is called and shall enter in such book the locality of the fire, the time the alarm was received, the cause of the fire, where the fire started, the cause of delay (if any) in responding, the estimated fire loss, the time the fire was extinguished, the names of men responding, and general remarks.
- I. He shall keep an inventory of all apparatus and equipment and an inventory of all hose, showing dates and results of tests on each length, which shall be individually numbered.
- J. He shall perform such other duties as are usually incumbent on the commanding officer of the fire department.

§ 61-15 Control and care of apparatus.

- A. The chief shall have control of all apparatus used by the department and shall be responsible for its proper maintenance. Emergency repairs may be authorized by the chief.
- B. No apparatus shall be used for any purpose except for firefighting that is within the fire department contracted district limits, or in training therefor, except pursuant to an agreement approved by the Village Board after the chief has given his recommendations on such use. With the approval of the chief, such apparatus may be used for emergency purposes within the Village. Such apparatus may be used as the Fire Chief deems necessary, such as for mutual aid, mutual aid training, and fire prevention. A written report of all such uses shall be made quarterly to the Village Board.

§ 61-16 Police power of chief and officers.

Any fire department officer may request a law enforcement officer present to handle any arrests of any person failing to give the right-of-way to the fire department in responding to a fire.

§ 61-17 Expelled or demoted member; appeal to Village Board.

Any member or officer of the department who has been expelled or demoted for any offense or neglect of duty, or insubordination at any fire or drill, shall have the right to appear before the members of the

Village Board and state why such penalty should not be confirmed. The Village Board may, by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Board, order the chief to reinstate the member or officer. The secretary-treasurer shall report the name of each person expelled or demoted to the Village Board.

Article II
Ambulance Rescue Squad

[Adopted 1-25-2016(1) (Secs. 2-283 through 2-286 of the 2008 Code)]

§ 61-18 Fire department to operate ambulance rescue squad.

The Village fire department is empowered to operate ambulance rescue squads.

§ 61-19 Applicability.

The provisions of Article I of this chapter, establishing the fire department, are applicable to such ambulance rescue squad insofar as applicable.

§ 61-20 Membership.

The members of such ambulance rescue squad shall be composed of members of the fire department under the direction of the officers of the fire department.

§ 61-21 Fees and charges.

The fees or charges made for ambulance service shall be such as shall, from time to time, be established by the fire department and approved by the Village Board.

Article III
Fees for Fire Incident or Automobile Accident Responses

[Adopted 1-25-2016(1) (Sec. 2-287 of the 2008 Code)]

§ 61-22 Fire incident or automobile accident responses.

- A. In the event fire rescue equipment and/or firefighter personnel is dispatched to the scene of an incident or automobile accident within the Village of Campbellsport Fire District or surrounding communities, those persons involved in and who have utilized the responding equipment or fire personnel may be billed for services rendered pursuant to state law.
- B. Fees for this service will be recommended by the Village fire department Fire Chief and presented to the Village council for approval. Any future changes in set fees for incident or accident services will be reviewed by the Village Fire Department Fire Chief and presented for approval to the Village council and may be amended by resolution of the Village council.

Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption, approval, and publication. Adopted, recorded and approved this ____ day of February 2019.

David Krebs Village President

ATTEST: _____
Becky Tellier, Village Clerk

Campbellsport News Publication Date _____