City of Bellaire

ORDINANCE NO. 25-013

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLAIRE, TEXAS, AMENDING *CHAPTER 9.5, ALARM SYSTEMS, ARTICLE I, IN GENERAL, SEC. 9.5-2. - PERMIT REQUIRED,* OF THE *CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BELLAIRE, TEXAS ("CITY CODE"),* FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING ANNUAL PERMITS THAT REQUIRE RENEWAL, AS WELL AS ESTABLISHING ALARM PERMIT RENEWAL FEES AND FALSE ALARM FEES.

WHEREAS, the City of Bellaire, Texas (the "City"), wishes to amend the duration of an alarm permit issued in accordance with Chapter 9.5, Alarm Systems; and

WHEREAS, the City has a need to ensure that alarm permits contain current responsible party and keyholder contact information to improve the efficiency of alarm responses; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to amend the City of Bellaire's Schedule of Fees and Charges to establish alarm permit renewal fees and escalating fees for excessive false alarms.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLAIRE, TEXAS:

Section 1. **THAT** *Chapter 9.5, Alarm Systems, Article I, In General, Sec. 9.5-2. - Permit Required*, of the *City Code* is hereby amended to read as set out in Exhibit "A" attached hereto. All other portions of *Chapter 9.5, Alarm Systems,* of the *City Code* not specifically amended, deleted, added, and/or revised hereby shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 2. **THAT** the City of Bellaire Schedule of Fees and Charges for Fiscal Year 2025 is hereby amended to add the fees as set out in Exhibit "B" attached hereto.

Section 3. **THAT** all ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are repealed to the extent of conflict only.

Section 4. **THAT** if any word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, section, or other part of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, shall ever be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, neither the remainder of this Ordinance, nor the application of such word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, section, or other part of this Ordinance to any other persons or circumstances, shall be affected thereby.

Section 5. **THAT** the City Council officially finds, determines, and declares that a sufficient written notice of the date, hour, place, and subject of each meeting at which this Ordinance was discussed, considered, or acted upon was given in the manner required by the *Texas Open Meetings Act*, as amended, and that each such meeting has been open to the public as required by law at all times during such discussion, consideration, and action. The City Council ratifies, approves, and confirms such notices and the contents and posting thereof.

Section 6. **THAT** a true and correct copy of this Ordinance shall be filed with the City Clerk of the City of Bellaire, Texas, and maintained as part of the budget for the City for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2025.

Section 7. **THAT** this Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its adoption by the City Council.

PASSED, APPROVED, and **ADOPTED** this 27th day of January, 2025.

SIGNED:

Gus E. Pappas
Mayor

ATTEST:

CITY OF BELLAIRE TEXAS

Tracy L. Dutton, TRMC
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Alan P. Petrov
City Attorney

EXHIBIT "A"

TO

ORDINANCE NO. 25-013

(ATTACHED)

(Language to be added shown by underline, language to be deleted shown by strike-out)

Chapter 9.5 - ALARM SYSTEMS

ARTICLE I. - IN GENERAL

Sec. 9.5-2. - Permit required.

No person shall operate, cause to be operated or permit the operation of an alarm system unless a current permit has been issued by the police department for such system. Provided, however, this section shall not be applicable to an alarm system business which monitors, services, or monitors and services, an alarm system installed and designed to protect property under the control of a person other than the alarm system business; but the person in control of the property which the alarm system is designed to protect shall be subject to prosecution if he permits the operation of such system without a valid permit.

The person in control of the property may obtain a separate permit for each alarm system or may obtain a single permit for all alarm systems on as much of the property ~~one premises~~ as is under the control of the applicant for the permit, except that one permit shall not permit the operation of both hold-up alarms and burglar alarms. If both hold-up alarms and burglar alarms are operated on the property ~~one premises~~, a single permit may be obtained for all hold-up alarms on so much of the ~~premises~~ property as is under the control of the applicant and a separate single permit may be obtained for all burglar alarms on the ~~premises~~ property under the applicant's control.

~~The information contained within the permit shall be reviewed and verified by the permit holder at least annually.~~

Each permit issued in accordance with this article shall be valid for a period of 12 months from the date of issuance and must be renewed, unless it is revoked in accordance with this chapter, or unless the control of the property is transferred from the permit holder.

The permit holder for an alarm system or fire alarm shall keep such permit at the alarm site and shall produce such permit for inspection upon the request of any member of the police department and/or fire department.

~~Nonprofit corporations or organizations are hereby exempt from any permit fees but not from obtaining permits.~~

EXHIBIT "B"

TO

ORDINANCE NO. 25-013

(ATTACHED)

Department	#	Service Description	Unit	FY2025 Proposed Fee
Police				
	1	Alarm Permits & Fees		
		Alarm Permits	Each	$73
		Alarm Renewals (Annual) - Residential	Each	$25
		Alarm Renewals (Annual) - Commercial	Each	$50
		Penalty – Non-Renewal		$25
		Number of Non-Valid Alarms		
		1st, 2nd, and 3rd Alarms	Each	No Fee
		4th and 5th Alarms	Each	$50
		6th and 7th Alarms	Each	$75
		8th Alarm or More	Each	$100