

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND RE-ORDAINING SUBSECTION 37-250(B) (TOW BOOK TO BE MAINTAINED BY THE CHIEF OF POLICE; ADDITIONAL FEES) OF DIVISION 1 OF ARTICLE IV (TOW TRUCKS) OF CHAPTER 37 (VEHICLES FOR HIRE) AND APPENDIX A OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA FOR THE PURPOSE OF MODIFYING POLICE TOW LIST RATES.**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Portsmouth, Virginia:

1. That Subsection 37-250(b) of Division 1 of Article IV of Chapter 37 of the Code of the City of Portsmouth, Virginia (2006) is amended and reordained as follows:

**Sec. 37-250. Tow book to be maintained by chief of police; additional fees.**

...

(b) The tow book shall be maintained and administered by the chief of police. The chief of police may prescribe conditions for tow operators who apply to be included in the tow book, and he may also establish rules and regulations which must be obeyed by tow operators who are listed in the tow book. ~~An application processing fee of \$20.00 shall be charged to each applicant for inclusion in the tow book.~~ In promulgating such conditions, rules and regulations, the chief of police may provide for the following matters:

- (1) Compliance with minimum safety standards.
- (2) Ownership or possession of all equipment and facilities deemed necessary by the chief of police to provide essential towing services.
- (3) A fee schedule promulgated by the chief of police providing for the maximum fees to be charged by a tow truck operator for services rendered. ~~Such fee schedule shall include a charge of not less than \$22.50 for basic towing services and additional charges for necessary services in particular cases.~~

The chief of police shall determine whether ~~additional~~ services were necessary in each particular case and approve all fees charged therefor as follows:

~~A \$105.00 maximum towing fee may be charged for all tows.~~

For vehicles with a Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) of up to 8,800, the maximum towing fee shall be \$200.

For vehicles with a GVWR of more than 8,800 but less than 18,000, the maximum towing fee shall be \$350.

For vehicles with a GVWR of 18,000 or more, the maximum towing fee shall be \$575.

If a call requires more than one wrecker, the fee per wrecker shall not exceed the single wrecker fees set out herein.

A storage fee ~~of \$20.00 per day~~ may be charged commencing 24 hours after the tow and any fraction of a day thereafter. For vehicles with a GVWR of less than 18,000, the maximum storage fee shall be \$50.00 per day. For vehicles

with a GVWR of 18,000 or more, the maximum storage fee shall be \$70.00 per day.

Additional charges may be assessed for tows involving unusual circumstances and written on an approved tow bill. Unusual circumstances include, but are not necessarily limited to:

Use of dollies.

Vehicles that have driven completely or partially off a bridge or overpass.

Vehicles stuck in mud or water.

Vehicles requiring extrication from a tree, utility pole or other comparable object.

Vehicles that are on their sides or roofs and which require being righted.

Additional charges shall not exceed \$85.00 per hour plus the initial fee.

~~These fees shall only apply to tows within the City of Portsmouth.~~

- (4) Maintaining of a business office accessible to patrons during reasonable business hours.
- (5) Keeping accurate and complete records of all transactions governed by this section.
- (6) Maintaining proper custody of towed vehicles and their contents.

....

2. That Appendix A of the Code of the City of Portsmouth, Virginia (2006) is amended and reordained as follows:

...

*CHAPTER 37. VEHICLES FOR HIRE*

Code Section	Description	Fee
...		
37-250(a)	Processing fee for application to be included in tow book	20.00
<del>37-250(b)</del>	<del>Processing fee for application to be included in tow book</del>	<del>22.00</del>

...

3. That the provisions of Chapter 37 and Appendix A of the Code of the City of Portsmouth, Virginia (2006) not expressly shown in this ordinance are not amended.

4. That this ordinance shall take effect on the date of adoption.

**ADOPTED** by the Council of the City of Portsmouth, Virginia, at a meeting held on April 22, 2025.

Teste:

City Clerk