



ORDINANCE 2006-019

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 8.08 (ALARM SYSTEMS) OF THE SHERWOOD MUNICIPAL CODE ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR REGISTERING ALARMS, PROVIDING FOR THE IMPOSITION OF PENALTIES FOR FALSE ALARMS, MAKING CERTAIN MINOR CLARIFICATIONS AND PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the Sherwood Police Department is notified when alarm systems are activated within the City limits; and

WHEREAS, activated alarms require Police response and inspection of the area covered by the alarm system to determine whether response was actually needed or whether the alarm was false; and

WHEREAS, due to faulty alarm systems and inadequate training of alarm users, Sherwood Police has been responding to an increasing number of false alarms; and

WHEREAS, the number of false alarms represents a burden on law enforcement resources and diverts the police from performing other critical duties and responsibilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BASED ON THE FOREGOING, THE CITY OF SHERWOOD ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 8.08.010 and 8.08.020 are hereby amended to read as follows:

8.08.010 Definitions.

As used in this Chapter:

"Alarm business" means the business by any individual, partnership, corporation, or other entity of selling, leasing, maintaining, servicing, repairing, altering, replacing, moving, or installing any alarm system or causing to be sold, leased, maintained, serviced, repaired, altered, replaced, moved or installed any alarm system in or on any building, structure, or facility.

"Alarm system" means any assembly of mechanical or electrical equipment arranged to signal the occurrence of an illegal entry or other activity requiring urgent attention and to which city police are expected to respond, provided, however, that automobile alarm systems are not included in this definition. All alarm systems installed in the city, except for medical alert alarms, shall include an external visual display.

"Alarm user" means the person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company, or organization of any kind in control of any building, structure, or facility in which an alarm system is maintained.

"Automatic dialing device" means a device which is connected to a telephone line and is programmed to select a predetermined telephone number and transmit by voice message or code signal an emergency message indicating a need for emergency response.

"City" means the City of Sherwood.

"Dispatch center" means the city facility used to receive emergency and general information from the public.

"False alarm" means an alarm signal eliciting a response by city police when a situation actually requiring such a response does not in fact exist.

"Interconnect" means to connect an alarm system, including an automatic dialing device, to a telephone line, either directly or through a mechanical device that utilizes a telephone, for the purpose of using the telephone line to transmit a message upon the activation of the alarm system.

"Primary trunk line" means a telephone line serving the dispatch center that is designated to receive emergency calls.

8.08.020 Alarm user registration required.

Every alarm user in the City shall register their alarm systems with the City, including all previously installed systems. Registrations shall be renewed annually. Registration shall include the address of the premises in which the alarm is installed, a mailing address if different from the physical address, and a contact phone number. Council, shall by resolution, establish fees applicable to initial registration and annual renewals. Any alarm fee not paid within 90 days of invoicing will cause the alarm permit to be inactivated.

Section 2. Section 8.08.040 is hereby amended to read as follows:

8.08.040 User instructions.

Every alarm business selling, leasing, installing or furnishing alarm systems in the City shall provide the alarm user with instructions enabling the user to operate the alarm system properly, to disarm malfunctioning systems and to obtain service for a leased alarm system.

Section 3. Sections 8.08.070 to 8.08.110 are hereby amended to read as follows:

8.08.070 False alarms.

A. Except as provided in Section 8.08.090 , if any registered alarm system produces more than one (1) false alarm in any calendar year, the City shall provide written notice by first class mail to the mailing address shown on the registration directing the alarm user to take all necessary corrective action and informing the alarm user of the false alarm fine schedule created by Council.

B. Alarm users installing a new system are entitled to a thirty (30) day grace period during which alarms generated by such new system shall not be deemed false alarms, regardless of whether they otherwise would be.

C. Except as provided in Section 8.08.090, a registered alarm system producing more than one (1) false alarm in a calendar year, shall be deemed in violation of this Chapter and a fine assessed against the alarm user. Council shall, by resolution, establish a fee schedule for false alarms and unregistered alarm systems. Any false alarm fee not paid within 90 days of invoicing will cause the alarm permit to be inactivated.

8.08.080 Non-registered alarms.

Except as provided in Section 8.08.090, upon any non-registered alarm system producing any alarm, false or otherwise, requiring police response, the alarm user shall be required to register their system consistent with the provisions of this Chapter. Alarm systems registered under these circumstances shall thereafter be subject to the penalty provisions of this Chapter, including the fines adopted by Council.

8.08.090 Continuous alarms.

Any alarm system producing an alarm that cannot be shut-off by responding city police and that continuously operates for a period greater than sixty (60) minutes, shall be treated as a fourth false alarm, and subject to the penalties adopted consistent with Section 8.08.070C.

8.08.100 Confidentiality.

All alarm system registration information submitted in compliance with this chapter shall, to the extent permissible under ORS 192.410 to ORS 192.505 be deemed to be submitted to the City in confidence.

8.08.110 Allocation of revenues.

All penalties collected pursuant to this Chapter shall be deposited to the City general fund.

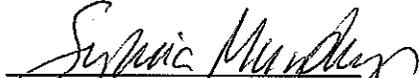
Section 4. Section 8.08.120 is deleted in its entirety.

Section 5. The Council believes the terms of this ordinance are necessary to be incorporated into the City Code as quickly as possible so as to have the Code comport with the practices of the City, the Council believes an emergency exists and this ordinance shall be in effect from and after its passage by the Council.

DULY PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL THIS 8 DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2006.


Keith Mays, Mayor

ATTEST:


Sylvia Murphy, City Recorder

	AYE	NAY
Luman	<u> X </u>	_____
King	<u> X </u>	_____
Henderson	<u> X </u>	_____
Heironimus	<u> X </u>	_____
Grant	<u> X </u>	_____
Durrell	<u> X </u>	_____
Mays	<u> X </u>	_____