

ORDINANCE NO. 155

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE INSPECTION OF ALL BUILDINGS AND PREMISES WITHIN THE TOWN OF GRANITE FALLS BY THE MEMBERS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, REGULATING THE MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, USE AND OCCUPATION OF ALL BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES WITHIN SAID TOWN, AND REGULATING THE USE AND OCCUPATION OF ALL PREMISES IN SAID TOWN, REGULATING BONFIRES AND OTHER EXPOSED FIRES IN SAID TOWN, DEFINING THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF CERTAIN OFFICERS IN RELATION THERETO, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

THE TOWN OF GRANITE FALLS DOES ORDAIN:

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Chief of the Fire Department to inspect or cause to be inspected by Fire Department officers or members, as often as may be necessary but not less than twice a year in outlying districts and four times a year in the closely build portions of the town, all buildings, premises and public thoroughfares, except the interiors of private dwellings, for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected, any conditions liable to cause fire, or any violations of the provisions or intent of any ordinance of the town affecting the fire hazard.

Whenever the Chief of the Fire Department or any officer or member thereof shall find any building or other structure which, for want of repairs, or by reason of age or disapidated condition, or for any other cause, is especially liable to fire and which is so situated as to endanger other property, and whenever any officer or member shall find in any building upon any premises or other place, combustible or explosive matter or dangerous accumulations of rubbish or of unnecessary accumulations of waste paper, boxes, shavings or any other highly inflammable materials especially liable to fire, and which is so situated as to endanger property or shall find obstructions to or in fire escapes, stairs, passage-ways, doors, windows, etc., liable to interfere with the operations of the Fire Department, or egress of occupants, in case of fire, he or they shall order the same to be removed or remedied and such order shall forthwith be complied with by the owner or occupant of such premises or building, subject to appeal within twenty-four hours to the Mayor, who shall within ten days review such orders, and file his decision thereon, and unless the order is revoked or modified it shall remain in full force and be obeyed by such owners or occupant.

Any owner or occupant failing to comply with such order within ten days after said appeal shall have been determined or, if no appeal is taken, then within ten days after the service of the said order, shall be liable to a penalty as hereinafter stated.

The service of any such order shall be made upon the occupant of the premises to whom it is directed by either delivery of a true copy of the same to such occupant personally or by delivering the same to and leaving it with any person in charge of the premises; whenever it may be necessary to serve such an order, or, if such owner is absent from the jurisdiction of the officer making the order, by mailing such copy to the owner's last known address.

Section 2. Whenever any unoccupied building is not properly secured or enclosed, the Fire Chief shall immediately visit the premises and notify the owner or persons having control of the same to forthwith secure or enclose the same as to prevent evil disposed persons from gaining access thereto, and the persons so notified as aforesaid shall immediately comply with said notification.

Section 3. In addition to the penalties provided in the preceding section for violations of this ordinance, any building or structure, or part thereof, erected, altered, repaired, removed, arranged, equipped, used or occupied in violation of any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed and is hereby declared to be a nuisance, and such nuisance may be abated in the manner provided by law or by the ordinance of the Town of Granite Falls for the abatement of nuisances.

Section 4. No person shall kindle, maintain or assist in maintaining any bonfire or other exposed fire within the town, excepting under written permit from the Chief of the Fire Department, when such burning shall be done in metallic receptacles approved by him and under such proper safeguard as he may direct to time and weather conditions and on condition such permit carries an obligation on the part of the grantee to keep a sufficient safe control of said fire, and to be made responsible for all damages therefrom, and that all resultant embers shall be extinguished and the hot ashes removed or wet down at the close of said fire.

Section 5. Any person or persons, firm or corporation, violating any of the provisions of this ordinance or any of its sections, or the provisions of any permit issued in con-

formity herewith, shall, upon conviction forfeit and pay a fine not more than Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) for each offense, and not more than Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) for every day thereafter so long as the said violation exists, and a fine of not more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for subsequent violations.

Section 6. Whereas, the above ordinance is necessary for the protection of property within the Town of Granite Falls, from fire and emergency is declared to exist, and this ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication.

JACK WEBB, Mayor

ATTEST:
Frank M. Elder,
Town Clerk