

CHAPTER 25

CONSTRUCTION AND EFFECT OF ORDINANCES

- 25.01 Rules of Construction
- 25.02 Conflict and Separability
- 25.03 Clerk to File Documents Incorporated by Reference
- 25.04 Penalty Provisions
- 25.05 Repeal of General Ordinances
- 25.06 Effect of Repeals
- 25.07 Title: Effective Date: Citation
- 25.08 Keeping Code Current: Revisor's Amendments

CONSTRUCTION AND EFFECT OF ORDINANCES 25.01

25.01 RULES OF CONSTRUCTION. In the construction of this Code, the following rules shall be observed unless such construction would be inconsistent with the manifest intent of the ordinance:

(1) **WISCONSIN STATUTES.** (Am. MSC '88) All references to "Wisconsin Statutes" or "Wis. Stats.," shall mean the Wisconsin Statutes for the years 1985-86 and shall include the 1987-89 biennial session.

(2) **GENDER, SINGULAR AND PLURAL.** Every word in this Code and in any ordinance imparting the masculine gender may extend and be applied to females as well as males, and every word imparting the singular number only may extend and be applied to several persons or things as well as to one person or thing; provided these rules of construction shall not be applied to any provision which contains any express language excluding such construction or when the subject matter or context of such provision may be repugnant thereto.

(3) **PERSON.** The word "person" extends and applies to natural persons, firms, corporations, associations, partnerships or other bodies politic and to all entities capable of being sued, unless plainly inapplicable.

(4) **ACTS OF AGENTS.** When a provision requires an act to be done which may by law as well be done by an agent as by the principal, such requirement shall be construed to include all such acts when done by an authorized agent.

25.02 CONFLICT AND SEPARABILITY.

(1) **CONFLICT OF PROVISIONS.** If the provisions of the different chapters of this Code conflict with or contravene each other, the provisions of each chapter shall prevail as to all matters and questions arising out of the subject matter of such chapter.

(2) **SEPARABILITY OF CODE PROVISIONS.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of the Code is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by reason of any decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of any other section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase or portion thereof. The Council hereby declares that it would have passed this Code and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion may be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

CONSTRUCTION AND EFFECT OF ORDINANCES 25.03

25.03 CLERK TO FILE DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE. Whenever in this Code any standard, code, rule, regulation or other written or printed matter is adopted by reference, it shall be deemed incorporated in this Code as if fully set forth herein and the Clerk shall file, deposit and keep in his office a copy of the Code, standard, rule, regulation or other written or printed matter as adopted. Materials so filed, deposited and kept shall be public records open for examination with proper care by any person during the Clerk's office hours, subject to such orders or regulations which the Clerk may prescribe for their preservation.

25.04 PENALTY PROVISIONS.

(1) **GENERAL PENALTY.** Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this Code shall upon conviction of such violation, be subject to a penalty, which shall be as follows:

(a) **First Offense--Penalty.** Any person who shall violate any provision of this Code shall, upon conviction thereof, forfeit not less than \$5.00 nor more than \$500, together with the costs of prosecution and in default of payment of such forfeiture and costs of prosecution shall be paid, but not exceeding 90 days.

(b) **Second Offense--Penalty.** Any person found guilty of violating any ordinance or part of an ordinance of this Code who shall previously have been convicted of a violation of the same ordinance within one year shall upon conviction thereof, forfeit not less than \$10.00 nor more than \$500 for each such offense, together with costs of prosecution and in default of payment of such forfeiture and costs shall be imprisoned in the County Jail until such forfeiture and costs of prosecution are paid, but not exceeding 6 months.

(2) **CONTINUED VIOLATIONS.** Each violation and each day a violation continues or occurs shall constitute a separate offense. Nothing in this Code shall preclude the City from maintaining any appropriate action to prevent or remove a violation of any provision of this Code.

(3) **EXECUTION AGAINST DEFENDANT'S PROPERTY.** Whenever any person fails to pay any forfeiture and costs of prosecution upon the order of any court for violation of any ordinance of the City, the court may, in lieu of ordering imprisonment of the defendant, or after the defendant has been released from custody, issue an execution against the property of the defendant for such forfeiture and costs.

CONSTRUCTION AND EFFECT OF ORDINANCES 25.05

25.05 REPEAL OF GENERAL ORDINANCES. All ordinances heretofore adopted by the City Council are hereby repealed, except all ordinances or parts of ordinances relating to the following subjects and not conflicting with any of the provisions of this Code:

The issuance of corporate bonds and notes of the City of whatever name or description.

The establishment of grades, curb lines and widths of sidewalks in the public streets and alleys.

The fixing of salaries of public officials and employees.

Rights, licensed or franchises or the creation of any contract with the City.

The lighting of streets and alleys.

The annexation of territory to the City.

The naming and changing of names of streets, alleys, public grounds and parks.

The letting of contracts without bids.

The establishment of aldermanic districts, aldermanic district boundaries and election precincts.

Tax and special assessment levies.

Release of persons, firms or corporations from liability.

Construction of any public works.

Water, sewer and electric rates, rules and regulations and sewer and water main construction.

Budget ordinances, resolutions and actions.

25.06 EFFECT OF REPEALS. The repeal or amendment of any section or provision of this Code or of any other ordinances or resolutions of the City shall not:

(1) By implication be deemed to revive any ordinance not in force or existing at the time at which such repeal or amendment takes effect.

CONSTRUCTION AND EFFECT OF ORDINANCES 25.06(1)

(2) Affect any vested right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired, accrued or incurred under any enactment so repealed or amended, unless the privilege of repealing such obligation or privilege has been reserved by the City.

(3) Affect any offense committed or penalty or forfeiture incurred, previous to the time when any ordinance shall be repealed or amended, except when any forfeiture or penalty shall have been mitigated by the provisions of any ordinance, such provisions shall apply to and control any judgement to be pronounced after such ordinance takes effect for any offense committed before that time.

(4) Affect any prosecution for any offense, or the levy of any penalty or forfeiture pending at the time when any ordinance aforesaid shall be repealed or amended, but the right of action shall continue and the offender shall be subject to the penalty as provided in such ordinances, and such prosecution shall proceed, in all respects, as if such ordinance or ordinances had not been repealed, except all such proceedings had after the time this Code shall take effect, shall be conducted according to the provisions of this Code.

25.07 TITLE: EFFECTIVE DATE: CITATION. These ordinances shall be known as the "Municipal Code of the City of Sparta" and shall take effect from and after passage and publication as provided in Sec.66.035, Wis. Stats. All references thereto shall be cited by section number (example: Sec.13.06, Municipal Code of the City of Sparta).

25.08 KEEPING CODE CURRENT: REVISOR'S AMENDMENTS. As each ordinance or resolution affecting the Municipal Code becomes effective, the City Clerk shall forward such ordinance or resolution to the Revisor, who shall incorporate same into the Municipal Code. The Revisor shall make no substantive changes to such ordinances and resolutions but may renumber, rearrange and edit them without first submitting them to the City Council; and such rearranging, renumbering and editing shall not affect the validity of such ordinances and resolutions or the provisions of this Municipal Code affected thereby.