

ORDINANCE NO. 81

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A VOLUNTEER  
FIRE DEPARTMENT AND MAKING RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE  
GOVERNMENT OF THE SAME

The Council of the city of Hokah, Minnesota ordains:

Section 1. Fire Department Established. There is hereby established in this city a volunteer fire department consisting of a Chief, Two assistant Chiefs a fire Marshal, and not less than 10 nor more than 25 Firefighters.

Section 2. Election (Appointment). The Chief of the Fire Department, the First Assistant Chief, the Second Assistant Chief and the Fire Marshal shall be elected subsequent to the Adoption of this ordinance by the members of the department subject to confirmation by the Council. The Chief shall hold office until he is removed by the Council of the City of Hokah. The First Assistant Chief shall be elected for a term of two years. The Second Assistant Chief shall be elected for a term of one year at the first election following adoption of this ordinance and thereafter shall be elected for a term of two years. The Fire Marshal shall be elected for a term of one year. Each such officer except the Chief shall hold office until his successor has been duly elected, except that he may be removed by the Council. Firefighters and probationary Firefighters shall continue as members of the department during good behavior, and may be removed by the Council only for a cause.

Section 3. Duties of Fire Marshal. The Office of Fire Marshal may be held by the Chief or by an Assistant Chief, if the Council by resolution approves. The Fire Marshal shall be charged with the enforcement of all ordinances aimed at fire prevention. He shall have full authority to inspect all premises and to cause the removal or abatement of all fire hazards.

Section 4. Duties of Chief. The Chief shall have control of all the fire fighting apparatus and shall be solely responsible for its care and condition. He shall make a report, annually, to the Council at its meeting in December of each year, as to the condition of the equipment and needs of the fire department. He may submit additional reports and recommendations at any meeting of the Council, and he shall report each suspension by him of a member of the fire department at the first meeting of the council following such suspension. He shall be responsible for the proper training and discipline of the members of the fire department, and may suspend any member for refusal or neglect to obey orders pending final action by the Council on his discharge or retention.

Section 5. Records. The chief shall keep in convenient form a complete record of all fires. Such a record shall include the time of the alarm, location of fire, cause of fire (if known), type of building, name of owner and tenant, purpose for which occupied, value of building and contents, members of the department responding to the alarm, and such other information as he may deem advisable or as may be required from time to time by the Council or State Insurance Department.

Section 6. Practice Drills. It shall be the duty of the Chief, when the weather permits, to hold a monthly practice drill of at least two hours duration for the fire department and to give the firefighters instruction in approved methods of fire fighting and fire prevention.

Section 7. Assistant Chiefs. In the absence or disability of the Chief, the First Assistant Chief shall perform all the functions and exercise all of the authority of the chief. In the absence or disability of the First Assistant Chief, the Second Assistant Chief shall perform all the functions and exercise all of the authority of the Chief.

Section 8. Firefighters. The Assistant Chiefs and Firefighters shall be able-bodied and not less than eighteen (18) nor more than sixty-five (65) years of age. They shall become members of the fire department only after six (6) month's probationary period. The Council shall require that each candidate, before he may become a probationary Firefighter, must satisfy certain minimum requirements of height, weight, education and any other qualifications which may be specified by the Council; and that he must pass satisfactorily a physical examination.

Section 9. Loss of Membership. Firefighter absent from three consecutive drills or calls unless excused by the Chief or an Assistant Chief forfeit membership in the department.

Section 10. Compensation. The members and officers of the fire department shall receive compensation as follows:

Chief	\$50.00 per year and 2.00 per hour for each fire
Assistant Chiefs	\$10.00 per year and 2.00 per hour for each fire
Firefighters	2.00 per our for each fire
Fire Marshal	\$10.00 per year

The Chief shall certify and submit a yearly report showing in detail the hours served by each member of the department, and the compensation of which he is entitled therefore, during the year. No payment of any compensation for Firefighter may be ordered until such report is filed.

Section 11. Minimum Pay. In computing the compensation for fires, one hour shall be considered as the minimum to be paid to any firefighter or officer.

Section 12. Present Members. Persons who are members of the Hokah Fire Department, Incorporated, at the timer of the adoption of this ordinance shall not be required to serve a probationary period before receiving Firefighters rating.

Section 13. Relief Association. The members and officers of the fire department may organize themselves into a Fire Department Relief Association or continue their membership in the present Hokah Firemen's Relief Association.

Section 14. Interference with Department. It shall be unlawful for any person to give or make, or cause to be given or made, an alarm of fire without probable cause. Or to neglect or refuse to obey any reasonable order of the Chief at a fire, or to interfere with the fire department in the discharge of its duties; and any person convicted of violating

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this section shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$300 or by imprisonment for a period not exceeding 90 days, or both.

Section 15. Effective Date. This ordinance takes effect upon its passage and publication.

Adopted by the Council this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October, 1974

Mayor

Attest:

Verian Craig  
Clerk

Filed this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October 1974

Verian Craig, Clerk