

## **ORDINANCE NO. 690**

### **AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES REGULATING ALARM SYSTEMS WITHIN AUMSVILLE, TO BE KNOWN AS THE "AUMSVILLE ALARM ORDINANCE" AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 490.**

**WHEREAS**, the occupants of residential, commercial, and industrial establishments within the incorporated areas of the City find it desirable to install and utilize alarm systems for such emergencies as burglary and robbery; and

**WHEREAS**, the public interest requires the enactment of rules, regulations, standards, and procedures to regulate and control the alarm systems such that the City's police department and other agencies charged with the promotion of public safety and protection of the city's citizens efficiently and economically coordinate their functions.

**Based on the foregoing, the city of Aumsville ordains as follows:**

#### **Section 1. Purpose and scope.**

- (A) This ordinance provides minimum standards applicable to burglary, robbery, and panic alarm systems (including systems utilizing automatic dialing devices) to promote alarm users' responsibility for maintaining the reliability and proper use of alarm systems in the City thereby preventing unnecessary emergency response(s) by the City's emergency workers to false alarms and thereby protecting the City's emergency response capability and capacity.
- (B) This ordinance establishes:
1. a requirement for alarm permits;
  2. provides for monetary penalties for excessive false alarms and delinquent accounts;
  3. provides for possible discontinuation of police response to alarms;
  4. revocation of alarm permits; and
  5. establishes a system of administration.

#### **Section 2. Definitions.**

- (A) For the purposes of this ordinance:
1. **Alarm coordinator** means the individual designated by the Aumsville City Administrator to issue permits and enforce the provisions of this ordinance.
  2. **Alarm permit** refers to the official document that is issued by the Aumsville Police Department to users of alarm systems within the city limits.
  3. **Alarm system** or **system** means any assembly of equipment, mechanical or electrical, including one interconnected with radio frequency signals which is designed to signal the occurrence of an illegal entry, emergency or other activity by emitting or transmitting a remote or local audible, visual, or electronic signal requesting emergency services personnel response. An alarm system does not

include an alarm installed on a motor vehicle or an alarm that is carried as a personal protection device on an individual's body.

4. **Alarm user** means the person, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company, or organization of any kind owning, controlling, or occupying any building, structure, or facility wherein an alarm system is maintained.
5. **Burglar alarm system** means an alarm system signaling an entry or attempted entry into an area protected by the system.
6. **City** means the City of Aumsville.
7. **False alarm** means an alarm signal that elicits a response by emergency services personnel when a situation requiring such a response does not in fact exist but does not include an alarm signal caused by violent conditions of nature or other means not reasonably subject to control by the alarm business, operator, or alarm user.
8. **Robbery alarm system** means an alarm system transmitting a silent robbery signal from a business location or a panic/duress signal from a residential location.

### **Section 3. Permits required—Fees—Exemptions.**

- (A) Every alarm user, including those connected through an alarm center, must obtain an Aumsville alarm permit from the alarm coordinator for each alarm system prior to use thereof. Applications for an alarm permit must be filed with the alarm coordinator and must be accompanied by the required fee which fee shall be set by Council by resolution. Each permit shall be valid for one year from the date of issue.
- (B) A late penalty may be charged in addition to the alarm permit fee to an alarm user failing to obtain an alarm permit within 30 days of the system becoming operative or to a user failing to renew a permit within 45 days of the permit's expiration date.
- (C) Alarm permits are personal to the permit holder and are issued for a specified location. They are not transferable to another person or different location.

### **Section 4. False alarms.**

For each false alarm over 3 each permit year, the permit holder must pay a fee as established by Council.

### **Section 5. Permit revocation.**

- (A) Any alarm system having seven (7) or more false alarms during any permit year is subject to having its permit revoked.
- (B) Before revoking any permit, the police chief will give 10 days' written notice to allow the permit holder an opportunity to correct the system and submit proof thereof.

**Section 6. Violation penalties.**

(A) Penalties will be assessed by the alarm coordinator for false alarms as follows:

Number of False Alarms	
Within permit year:	Penalty (per violation)
3	\$__0__
4	\$__50.00__
5 or more	\$__150.00__

- (1) Violation of any other provision of this ordinance is subject to a penalty not to exceed \$500.00 per violation.

**Section 7. Repeal.** Ordinance 490 is hereby repealed.

**Section 8. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall take effect on the thirtieth day after its enactment.

Read first on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November 2020. READ a second time on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2020. ADOPTED AND PASSED by the Aumsville City Council on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2020:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ron Harding, City Administrator

SIGNED by the mayor this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2020

  
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Derek Clevenger, Mayor