

SPONSOR: Scott Rakos
6th District Councilman

ORDINANCE NO. 9424

AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE A NEW SECTION OF CHAPTER 93 (FIRE PREVENTION) REGARDING MAINTENANCE OF PRIVATELY OWNED FIRE HYDRANTS IN HAMMOND

WHEREAS, the City of Hammond Water Department owns and operates municipal water distribution within the City of Hammond and they are responsible for the maintenance, testing, marking and providing location information of fire hydrants and water main sizes to the fire department.

WHEREAS, in addition to the Hammond fire hydrants, there additionally are many privately owned hydrants located within the City, however, no ordinance currently exists concerning specifications for the privately owned fire hydrant nor for the responsibilities for maintenance, testing, marking or providing location information; and

WHEREAS, the Hammond Fire Department has the responsibility for providing fire protection within the City of Hammond. As part of this responsibility, the City and/or the Fire Department has required property owners to install fire hydrants on private property for the exclusive use of the fire department in controlling and extinguishing fires; and

WHEREAS, The Fire Department now seeks to initiate an ordinance to enforce compliance with the existing requirements for City hydrants to provide for the maintenance, testing, marking and location information of private fire hydrants; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Department has been faced with broken, non-compliant privately maintained fire hydrants as a result of a lack of an Ordinance setting a standard; and

AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE A NEW SECTION OF CHAPTER 93 (FIRE PREVENTION) REGARDING MAINTENANCE OF PRIVATELY OWNED FIRE HYDRANTS IN HAMMOND

WHEREAS, a lack of maintenance has the potential to affect the ability of the Hammond Fire Department to adequately respond to fire emergencies where these hydrants are located. The majority of these hydrants are connected to the City's water supply grid and have the potential to affect the water quality of the City's water distribution system. Additionally, there is no requirement for annual flow testing and identification marking of privately maintained fire hydrants located within the City; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Common Council of the City of Hammond that it is the will of the Citizens of Hammond, by and through the Hammond Common Council that Chapter 93 (Fire Prevention) is expanded as follows:

93.XXX PRIVATELY OWNED HYDRANTS LOCATED IN HAMMOND

The property owner where a privately owned fire hydrant exists must provide to the Hammond Fire Department the following:

1. Contact:

- A 24-hour contact number to report issues with a hydrant.
- 72-hour repair of any hydrant found in non-operating or defective condition.

2. Specifications:

Fire Hydrant specifications: must meet specifications set forth by the Hammond Water Department and:

- The large diameter (steamer) connection shall be either 4.34" (Hammond threads) or 5" Storz fitting. The (2) smaller connections shall be 2.5" NST threads.
- If connected to the municipal water system, the barrel of the fire hydrant shall be painted red (to easily identify a private hydrant); if connected to a private water system (non-potable supply) the barrel of the fire hydrant shall be painted violet (to identify a private hydrant connected to a non-potable water supply) with the top (or

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cap) bonnet painted to conform to NFPA Standard 291 or local (Hammond Water Department) fire hydrant flow rate colors.

Hammond water flow color markings: Less than 500 GPM = Red; 500-999 GPM = Yellow; 1000-1499 GPM = Green; Greater than 1500 GPM = Blue.

NFPA Standard 291 water flow color markings: Less than 500 GPM = Red; 500-999 GPM = Orange; 1000-1499 GPM = Green; Greater than 1500 GPM = Blue.

If the private fire hydrant is connected to a fire pump to augment water supply or pressure, the exposed operating stem on the top of the fire hydrant shall be painted white.

3. Out of service hydrants:

- Notification must be made to the fire department of any fire hydrants taken out of service for repair or maintenance and reported back in service to the fire department when repaired. (By calling the fire department during normal business hours, after hours contact Lake County Central Communications at 219-660-0000).
- Existing hydrants cannot be permanently taken out of service without the written permission of the Fire Inspection Bureau.
- Fire hydrants permanently taken out of service must be painted black or removed.

4. Annual testing and maintenance:

- Fire hydrants shall be operationally checked and flushed (until they run clear) by a licensed plumber in April and October of each year. In October of every year, a licensed plumber needs to check every private fire hydrant on your property, in your ownership, to ensure that they are drained and not full of water after the operation check. If the hydrant is full of water, it needs to be pumped out and drained by a licensed plumber. This requires removing the 4" nozzle and pumping down the water in the hydrant. Do not open the hydrant or the adjacent valve.
Fire hydrants shall be flow tested annually by a licensed plumber to determine the available flow from the hydrant and the residual pressure. The test results shall be provided to the fire department

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and the Hammond Water Department on an annual basis. The color markings on the hydrants must conform to the annual flow test results.

Test results shall include the hydrant location, the results of the flow test (static pressure and GPM flow).

A statement that the fire hydrant bonnet is painted to the color of the corresponding flow.

If the hydrant is connected to a fire pump or a private water system the statement must reflect the fire hydrant is painted in accordance with those requirements.

The physical location (GPS coordinates are preferred) of the fire hydrant must be provided to physically identify the fire hydrant and its location.

Results must be received by the fire department no later than November 15th annually.

5. Source: National Fire Protection Association Standard (NFPA) 291

6. Penalty: Section 10.99 Hammond Municipal Code

FURTHER BE IT ORDAINED The City of Hammond intends to create an enforceable Ordinance which is compliant with all Federal, State and Local laws, in the event, that this Ordinance, or any part of it, or any provision, or any classification contained therein, is found to be unconstitutional, the remaining portion will remain in effect and will be found to be valid.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Common Council of the City of Hammond, Indiana, this 20th day of November, 2018.

Janet Venecz, President /s/
Hammond Common Council

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ATTEST:

ROBERT J. GOLEC, City Clerk /s/

PRESENTED BY ME, the undersigned City Clerk of the City of Hammond to the Mayor said City for approval on the 21st day of November, 2018.

ROBERT J. GOLEC, City Clerk /s/

The foregoing Ordinance No. 9424 consisting of five (5) typewritten pages, including this page, approved by the Mayor on the 23rd day of November, 2018.

THOMAS M. MCDERMOTT, JR., Mayor /s/
City of Hammond, Indiana

PASSED by the Common Council on the 20th day of November, 2018.

ROBERT J. GOLEC, City Clerk /s/