

SPONSOR: Janet Venecz  
Councilwoman at Large

**ORDINANCE NO. 9274**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORD. 8574 ALSO KNOWN AS SECTION 72.016 OF THE HAMMOND MUNICIPAL CODE AS IT PERTAINS TO ADMINISTRATIVE TOWING FEES**

WHEREAS, Ordinance 8574 also known as Section 72.016 of the Hammond Municipal Code pertains to the fees charged by the City of Hammond for processing and releasing a towed vehicle to confirm the vehicle is registered, insured and the person claiming the vehicle is the owner and legal to drive the vehicle; and

WHEREAS, this fee is separate and distinct from the towing bill and reflects the administrative costs incurred by the Hammond Police Department to process and provide the release of the vehicle, and has not been increased since 2004, and is far lower than the fee charged by Lake County Indiana; and

WHEREAS, the Hammond Police and the Hammond Councilwoman at large wish to amend the Ordinance to increase the fee from twenty (\$20) dollars to seventy five (\$75) dollars; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Common Council of the City of Hammond that Ordinance 8574 also known as Section 72.016 of the Hammond Municipal Code, which pertains to Administrative Towing Fees, be amended as follows:

**Section 72.016 Administrative Towing Fee:**

**(A) Whenever the Hammond Code Enforcement Department through Court Order, or Hammond Police Department orders that any vehicle be towed from any location and that vehicle is later claimed by the owner, the owner shall be required to obtain a**

vehicle release from the Hammond Police Department prior

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORD.8574 ALSO KNOWN AS  
SECTION 72.016 OF THE HAMMOND MUNICIPAL CODE AS IT  
PERTAINS TO ADMINISTRATIVE TOWING FEES**

to retrieving the vehicle from impound storage. The Hammond Police Department shall assess an administrative fee of \$75 against the owner of record in exchange for this release. This fee shall be collected in addition and separately to any and all other applicable towing charges, which are collected by the authorized towing service. Any party wishing to remove any items from any towed vehicle must first obtain the vehicle release from the Hammond Police Department.

(B) The Hammond Common Council, by this Ordinance, authorizes the creation of an Environmental Fee which shall be determined by the Hammond Board of Public Works to cover the environmental costs of towed vehicles.

(C) The Hammond City Controller shall deposit the administrative towing fee created by this section into the Vehicle Release Fund, established by this section, for appropriation and expenditure pursuant to established guidelines.

NOW BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that herein ordinance shall have full force and effect from and after passage, approval by the Council, signing by the President thereof and approval and signing of the Mayor.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED BY the Common Council of the City of Hammond, Indiana, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2014.

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Michael Opinker, President /s/  
Hammond Common Council

ATTEST:

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Robert J. Golec, City Clerk /s/  
City of Hammond, Indiana

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORD.8574 ALSO KNOWN AS SECTION  
72.016 OF THE HAMMOND MUNICIPAL CODE AS IT PERTAINS TO  
ADMINISTRATIVE TOWING FEES**

PRESENTED BY ME, the undersigned City Clerk of the City of Hammond,  
Indiana, to the Mayor, for approval and signature, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2014.

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Robert J. Golec, City Clerk /s/  
City of Hammond, Indiana

The foregoing Ordinance No. 9274 consisting of three (3) typewritten pages,  
including this page, was APPROVED AND SIGNED BY ME, the undersigned  
Mayor of the City of Hammond, Indiana, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2014.

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Thomas M. McDermott, Jr., Mayor /s/  
City of Hammond, Indiana

PASSED by the Common Council on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2014, and  
approved by the Mayor on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2014.

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Robert J. Golec, City Clerk /s/  
City of Hammond, Indiana