



Memo

Police Department

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TO: Mayor and Ames City Council Members

FROM: Charles Cychosz
Chief of Police

DATE: April 18, 2012

SUBJECT: Revision to City Ordinance 18.7 and 18.28

Accompanying this memo are recommended changes to City ordinance language related to meter parking violations. Ordinance 18.7 has been revised to reflect the City Council action directing the City Attorney to draft an ordinance increasing illegal parking fines to \$20 (\$15 if paid within seven days), effective July 1, 2012.

At the same time, we are recommending that the ordinance language in 18.28 be modified to reflect the fact that new meters may allow payment by methods other than the use of coins. Consequently, the word "coins" has been removed and replaced with "payment." This will allow enforcement of meter violations for those meters that accept other forms of payment.

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF AMES, IOWA, BY REPEALING SECTIONS 18.7(1) & 18.28 AND ADOPTING NEW SECTIONS 18.7(1) & 18.28; THEREOF, FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING ILLEGAL PARKING FINES FROM \$15.00 TO \$20.00 & ELIMINATING ALL REFERENCE TO COINS AS THE FORM OF PAYMENT FOR PARKING METERS; REPEALING ANY AND ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT TO THE EXTENT OF SUCH CONFLICT; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ENACTED, by the City Council for the City of Ames, Iowa, that:

Section One. The Municipal Code of the City of Ames, Iowa shall be and the same is hereby amended by repealing Section 18.7(1) and adopting a new Section 18.7(1) as follows:

“Sec. 18.7. PARKING VIOLATIONS; METHOD OF CHARGING; METHOD OF PAYING.

(1) Any violation of any parking regulations of this chapter, or of Section 22.8 (snow routes), may be charged by placing a notice of violation and fine on the vehicle so parked. The amount of the fine payable for each violation of Section 18.28 (overtime parking) shall be ten dollars (\$10.00). However, if the fine is paid within the first seven (7) days of the date of the violation, five dollars (\$5.00) of the fine amount will be waived. The amount of fine payable for all other parking violations, except Section 18.18(1) (handicapped parking), including snow route violations, shall be twenty dollars (\$20.00). However, if the fine is paid within the first seven (7) days of the date of the violation, five dollars (\$5.00) of the fine amount will be waived. Any fines that remain unpaid after thirty (30) days from the date of the violation will be deemed contested and may be prosecuted.
...”

Section Two. The Municipal Code of the City of Ames, Iowa shall be and the same is hereby amended by repealing Section 18.28 and adopting a new Section 18.28 as follows:

“Sec. 18.28. DUTIES WHEN PARKING AT A METERED SPACE; OVERTIME PARKING.

During the hours when a parking space is controlled by a parking meter:

(1) No Person shall park a vehicle in any parking space for which a parking meter or a parking station is installed, unless such person immediately deposits or causes to be deposited in said meter such payment as shall be necessary to pay the rates stated on the meter for the time said vehicle is to occupy said parking space.

(2) No operator of a vehicle shall permit a vehicle to remain in a metered space or a space controlled by a parking station after the time for which payment has been deposited, unless such person deposits additional payment at the rates stated on the meter for additional time provided such additional time when added to the original time does not extend beyond the maximum time the vehicle can remain at the meter.

Violation of each subsection of this section shall constitute a separate offense of “overtime parking”.”

Section Three. All ordinances, or parts of ordinances, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict, if any.

Section Four. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect July 1, 2012, after its passage and publication as required by law.

Passed this _____ day of _____, _____.

Diane R. Voss, City Clerk

Ann H. Campbell, Mayor