

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 303.08 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES WITH RESPECT TO IMPOUNDING OF VEHICLES AND REDEMPTION SO AS TO CONFORM WITH STATE LAW AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Be It Ordained by the Council of the Village of Richfield, Ohio:

Section 1: Section 303.08 of the Codified Ordinances is amended to read as follows:

303.08 IMPOUNDING OF VEHICLES; REDEMPTION.

(a) Police officers are authorized to provide for the removal of a vehicle under the following circumstances:

- (1) When any vehicle is left unattended upon any street, bridge or causeway and is so illegally parked so as to constitute a hazard or obstruction to the normal movement of traffic, or so as to unreasonably interfere with street cleaning or snow removal operations.
- (2) When any vehicle or "abandoned junk motor vehicle" as defined in Ohio R.C. 4513.63 is left on private property for more than the number of hours permitted under the provisions of R.C. 4513.60 without the permission of the person having the right to the possession of the property, or on a public street or other property open to the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking, or upon or within the right of way of any road or highway, for forty-eight consecutive hours or longer, without notification to the Police Chief of the reasons for leaving such vehicle in such place. Prior to disposal of an "abandoned junk motor vehicle" as defined in Ohio R.C. 4513.63, it shall be photographed by a law enforcement officer.
- (3) When any vehicle has been stolen or operated without the consent of the owner and is located upon either public or private property.
- (4) When an vehicle displays illegal license plates or fails to display the current lawfully required plates and is located upon any public street or other property open to the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking.
- (5) When any vehicle has been used in or connected with the commission of a felony and is located upon either public or private property.
- (6) When any vehicle has been damaged or wrecked so as to be inoperable or violates equipment provisions of this Traffic Code whereby its continued operation would constitute a condition hazardous to life, limb or property, and is located upon any public street

or other property open to the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking.

- (7) When any vehicle is left unattended either on public or private property due to the removal of an ill, injured or arrested operator.
- (8) When any vehicle has been operated by any person who has failed to stop in case of an accident or collision and is located either on public or private property.
- (9) When any vehicle has been operated by any person who is driving without a lawful license or while his license has been suspended or revoked and is located on a public street or other property open to the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking.
- (10) When any vehicle is found for which two or more citation tags for violations of this Traffic Code have been issued and the owner or operator thereof has failed to respond to such citation tags as lawfully required, and is located upon a public street or other property open to the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking.

(b) Any vehicle removed under authority of subsection (a)(2) hereof shall be ordered into storage and/or disposed of as provided under Ohio R.C. 4513.60 et seq. Any other vehicle removed under authority of this section shall be ordered into storage and the Police Division shall forthwith notify the registered vehicle owner of the fact of such removal and impounding, reasons therefor and the place of storage. Any person desiring to redeem an impounded vehicle shall appear at the Police Division to furnish satisfactory evidence of identity and ownership or right of possession. Prior to issuance of a release form, the claimant, owner or operator shall either pay the amount due for any fines for violations on account of which such vehicle was impounded or, as the court may require, post a bond in an amount set by the court, to appear to answer to such violations. The pound operator shall release such vehicle upon the receipt of the release form and payment of all towage and storage charges.

(c) No owner or operator shall remove an impounded vehicle from the place of storage without complying with the above procedure. Possession of a vehicle which has been impounded and unlawfully taken from the place of storage, by the owner or operator, shall constitute prima-facie evidence that it was so removed by the owner or operator.

Section 2: Existing Section 303.08 of the Codified Ordinances is hereby repealed.

Section 3: This Ordinance is determined to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety for the reason to comply with state law and provided this Ordinance receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members elected or appointed, it shall take effect and be in force from and after its approval by the Mayor; otherwise it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest date provided by law.

Passed:

2/18/86

David W. Howard
President of Council

E. Glenn Clarke
Mayor

Dated: 2-18-86

Attest:

Theresa K. Kelly
Clerk of Council