

ORDINANCE NO. 53

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE INSTALLATION AND USE OF PRIVATE FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS IN THE TOWNSHIP OF WESTFALL, PIKE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA: PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SUCH SYSTEMS AND THE REVOCATION THEREOF: REQUIRING THE REGISTRATION BY PROPERTY OWNERS WITH THE TOWNSHIP FOR NOTIFICATION PURPOSES: AND PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FEES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ORDINANCE AND PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THERETO.

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Supervisors of Westfall Township, and it is hereby enacted and ordained by authority of the same:

SECTION I. DEFINITIONS

A. Fire Alarm System shall mean any device designed for the detection of fire, smoke, and/or heat in a building, structure, or facility, and which is directly connected to an audible alarm for the transmission of a related signal or message which is used to evoke an emergency response to any address or separate component of any system.

B. Nuisance Alarm shall mean the activation of a fire alarm system due to other than the said purpose for which the fire alarm system is designed. Any activation of a fire alarm system caused by its malfunction because of violent natural catastrophic condition including electrical storms, or power outages, or conditions beyond the control of the property owners will not constitute a nuisance alarm.

SECTION II: APPLICATIONS

A. Any property owner wishing to install a fire alarm system shall file with the Westfall Fire Department, on forms provided by the Township, a written application stating the name, address and telephone number of the property owner/applicant; a description of the property, or properties, where the proposed alarm system shall be installed; the location and street address of the property; a description of the type or types of fire alarm system(s) to be used including name and model number of the manufacturer; the name of the person or company who will install the fire alarm system(s); the name, address and telephone number of any person, or company, in the owners absence, who will be available to be contacted in the event of a fire alarm activation. In the event the name, mailing address, or telephone

number of the person, or company, to be contacted changes, the applicant shall supply this information to the Westfall Fire Department within five (5) days of the change. In case there is more than one building in which the fire alarm system shall be installed, the applicant must provide the Township with information concerning how the fire alarm for each building shall be distinguishable from the fire alarm in said other buildings. The property owner, or his designee, upon the request of the Westfall Fire Department, shall be required to be present at the fire alarm location within a reasonable period of time after being advised that the Fire Department, or other emergency department, has received a signal or message of a fire alarm activation.

B. Any property owner who presently has a fire alarm system shall register their name with the Westfall Fire Department, and provide said Department with all the information requested under Section II of this ordinance, if applicable. The property owner, or their designee, upon request of the Westfall Township Fire Department, shall be required to be present at the fire alarm location within a reasonable period of time after being advised that the Fire Department, or other emergency department, has received a signal or message of fire alarm activation.

#### SECTION III. TRANSFERS OF FIRE ALARM PERMITS

A. Fire alarm permits shall not be transferable from one property owner to another, or from one location to another, without the express written authorization from the Westfall Fire Department. In the event that the premises in which the fire alarm system has been installed is to be transferred to another individual, it shall be the responsibility of the permittee to notify the Westfall Fire Department of the name, address, and telephone number of said transferee.

B. Any individual who obtains title to premises in which a fire alarm system has been installed shall register their name with the Westfall Township Fire Department, and provide said Department with all information requested under Section II of this ordinance, if applicable.

#### SECTION IV: FIRE ALARM PERMIT FEES

A. Every person applying for a fire alarm permit under the provisions of this Ordinance shall pay a fee of \$25.00 to obtain the permit prior to the installation of a fire alarm system on the premises.

B. Any individual who presently owns, or obtains title to premises, in which a fire alarm system has already been installed shall pay the fee of \$10.00 to register their name, address, telephone number and the individual to be contacted in case of the activation of the fire alarm system.

C. All fees shall be made payable to the Township of Westfall.

SECTION V: SUSPENSION OF PERMIT

A. A permit shall be suspended within fifteen (15) days after a permittee receives written notice from the Westfall Township Fire Department that three (3) nuisance alarms have occurred on said permittee's premises within a period of thirty (30) days. The suspension of the permit will be lifted when the permittee gives proof that the fire alarm system has been repaired.

SECTION VI: PENALTIES

A. If any nuisance alarm occurs on any property owners premises after three (3) nuisance alarms have occurred on said premises within a period of thirty (30) days, upon conviction before a District Magistrate, said property owner will be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than one hundred (\$100.00) dollars per nuisance alarm that occurred after the first three (3) alarms together with the cost of prosecution.

B. Any person who shall violate, or fail to meet, any of the provisions of the Ordinance, upon conviction before a District Magistrate, will be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than Three Hundred (\$300.00) Dollars together with the cost of the prosecution and in default thereof shall undergo imprisonment in the County Jail for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days.

SECTION VII. CONFIDENTIALITY

A. The information furnished and secured pursuant to this Ordinance shall be confidential in character and shall be so kept in order that the contents thereof shall not be known except to persons charged with the administration of this Ordinance.

SECTION VIII. EFFECTIVE DATE

A. This Ordinance shall become effective five (5) days from the date of this adoption. Owners of fire alarm systems existing at the time of the

adoption of this Ordinance shall have a period of sixty (60) days to comply with all provisions hereof.

SECTION IX. REPEALER

A. All ordinances, and parts of Ordinances, inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

Enacted into any Ordinance this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1986.

Attest:

Bushy D. Chick  
Secretary

[Signature]

Supervisor

[Signature]

Supervisor

[Signature]

Supervisor