

ORDINANCE 2004-13

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LARGO, FLORIDA AMENDING CHAPTER 6, FIRE PROTECTION, OF THE LARGO CITY CODE; BY ADOPTING THE FLORIDA FIRE PREVENTION CODE; BY PROVIDING FOR FIRE HYDRANT SPACING AND LOCATION; BY PROVIDING FOR STANDBY AND EMERGENCY FIRE WATCHES; BY PROVIDING FOR A CITY FIRE MARSHAL; BY CHANGING NAME OF FIRE DEPARTMENT TO FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT; BY CLARIFYING DUTIES OF THE FIRE CHIEF; REPEALING SECTION 6-21, ASSISTANCE AT FIRES; REPEALING SECTION 6-22, ASSIGNMENT OF FIREMEN; REPEALING ARTICLE III, GASOLINE FILLING STATIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary and in the best interest of the public to amend the City of Largo's Fire Protection Code from time to time; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 6 of the Largo City Code outlines various policies governing fire protection; and

WHEREAS, Many of the sections of Chapter 6 of the Largo City Code were established in 1967 and are outdated and should be deleted or otherwise amended; and

WHEREAS, the Largo City Commission endorses the Florida Fire Prevention Code in accordance with 633.025, Florida Statutes and;

WHEREAS, the Largo City Commission, in the interest of public safety, desires to formalize existing City policies relative to fire hydrant placement and emergency fire watch as additions to the Florida Fire Prevention Code applicable in the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF LARGO HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. Article I, Section 6-1 of the Largo City Code is amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 6-1. Florida Fire Prevention Code, Section 633.0215, Florida Statutes, adopted; where copies filed; conflicts with other laws and regulations.

The Florida Fire Prevention Code, 2001 edition and the regulations adopted by the state fire marshal, as amended from time to time, in accordance with Section 633.0215, Florida Statutes, are hereby adopted and made as much a part of this chapter as is every word, sentence, section and part were set out herein. All rules issued by the state fire marshal pursuant to Section 633.15, Florida Statutes and any supplements or revisions thereof, shall be in full force and effect in the city and shall be enforced by the fire chief or his/her duly authorized representative. No less than three (3) copies of such codes and regulations are

representative
hours.

filed in the office of the city manager or his/her duly authorized
and shall be available for inspection during regular business

Section 2.

Article I, Section 6-1.1 of the Largo City Code is hereby created and shall read as follows:

Sec. 6-1.1 Fire hydrant spacing and location.

- (a) Fire hydrants in single-family residential areas shall be spaced no more than five hundred feet (500') apart measured along the line of street travel distance. For commercial, industrial and multi-family residential areas, a minimum of one fire hydrant assembly shall be accessible and within 500 feet (500'), as fire apparatus would travel with extension of hose lines to the most remote point of every structure.
- (b) Hydrants located on public roadways may not be credited as meeting the 500 ft. maximum spacing where:
- (1) Extension of hose lines would require closure of the following roadways as defined by the Largo Comprehensive Development Code:
- Limited Access (Expressway)
 - Major Arterial
 - Minor Arterial
- OR
- 2) Extension of hose lines would require the crossing/closure of a railroad.
- (c) Public and Private Hydrants:
- (1) Public Hydrants - All public hydrants may be credited for use subject to spacing and access as detailed within subsections (a) and (b) above.
- (2) Private Hydrants - Private hydrants not under the control and/or ownership of a subject property may not be credited for use unless evidence of a binding perpetual access and use agreement, satisfactory to the City, between all affected parties is submitted to the City Fire Marshal.

Section 3.

Article I, Section 6-1.2 of the Largo City Code is hereby created and shall read as follows:

Sec. 6-1.2 Standby and Emergency Fire Watches.

- (a) The fire chief or his/her designee shall determine the need for

standby fire watches in any place of public assembly/occupancy where due to the number of people expected to attend, and/or the nature of the performance, exhibition, event, display, contest or activity, a threat to public safety exists, in the sole discretion of the fire chief or his/her designee. The fire chief may require the owner, agent or lessee organizing the event to employ one or more firefighters, firefighter/paramedics, and or fire inspectors to be in attendance during the event for the purpose of a standby fire watch. The owner, agent or lessee organizing the event shall compensate the City for any and all costs related to the employment of a standby fire watch.

(b) The fire chief or his/her designee may require implementation of an emergency fire watch in any place of public assembly/occupancy where any fire protection equipment or system is deemed inoperable, defective, or out of service and/or a threat to public safety exists, in the sole discretion of the fire chief or his/her designee. The fire chief or his/her designee may require the owner, agent or lessee to assign a qualified person(s) to conduct fire watch procedures until such time as the fire protection equipment or system is fully restored. In the event that the owner, agent or lessee is unable or unwilling to assign a qualified person(s), the fire chief may employ one or more firefighters and/or fire inspectors for the purpose of an emergency fire watch. The owner, agent or lessee shall compensate the City for any and all costs related to the employment of an Emergency Fire Watch.

Section 4.

Article I, Section 6-2 of the Largo City Code is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 6-2. Enforcement of chapter; designation of fire inspector.

(a) The fire chief of the city, or his/her duly authorized representative, shall be authorized to enforce the provisions of this Chapter and all rules and regulations as set forth and established by the State Fire Marshal and this Chapter. Any such person so authorized by the fire chief to enforce the provisions of this Chapter and all rules and regulations as set forth and established by the State Fire Marshal shall be designated as "Fire Marshal" or "fire inspector."

(b) Persons designated "fire marshal" or "fire inspector" shall be certified by the Division of State Fire Marshal of the Department of Insurance in accordance with Section 633.081(2), Florida Statutes.

Section 5.

Article II, Section 6-16 of the Largo City Code is amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE II. FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Sec. 6-16. Powers and duties of fire chief generally.

The city manager shall have charge and control of the Fire Rescue

Department, all associated personnel, tools and equipment, apparatus and fire stations of the City. The fire chief shall establish the standard of public protection and safety relative to the control and extinguishment of fires; emergency medical services; and natural or man-made disasters. Staffing levels and resource deployment policies shall be under the control and at the direction of the fire chief.

Section 6. Article II, Section 6-18 of the Largo City Code is hereby repealed.

Section 7. Article II, Section 6-21 of the Largo City Code is hereby repealed.

Section 8. Article II, Section 6-22 of the Largo City Code is hereby repealed.

Section 9. Article II, Section 6-23 of the Largo City Code is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 6-23. Taking apparatus beyond city limits.

Under no circumstances shall the fire apparatus of the city be used outside of the city limits, except:

(1) To fulfill contractual obligations or mutual aid agreements of the city in effect at such time; or

(2) Upon express order of the city manager, the fire chief or the duly authorized representative thereof.

Section 10. Article II, Section 6-24 of the Largo City Code is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 6-24. Apparatus to be kept in good condition and ready for use, etc.

It shall be the duty of the fire chief to see and know that the fire and rescue apparatus of the city is kept in the places designated by him/her and that it is in good condition and in perfect readiness to respond to a call at a moment's notice.

Section 11. Article II, Section 6-25 of the Largo City Code is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 6-25. Hindering or interfering with fire rescue department, etc.; injuring apparatus.

It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere or attempt to interfere with or hinder in any way the fire rescue department or any member thereof while such are engaged in assigned duties. It shall also be unlawful for any person to refuse or neglect to obey any lawful order of any officer in command of any part of the fire rescue department while the same is on duty or to injure or attempt to injure any part of the fire apparatus of the city whatsoever.

Section 12. Article III, Sections 6-36 and 6-37 of the Largo City Code are hereby repealed.

Section 13. That it is the intention of the Largo City Commission that each provision hereof be considered severable, and, if any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or provision of this Ordinance is held invalid, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected.

Section 14. That this Ordinance shall take effect ten (10) days after final enactment.

APPROVED ON FIRST READING November 4, 2003

PASSED AND ADOPTED ON
SECOND AND FINAL READING November 18, 2003

ATTEST:



City Clerk

Robert E. Jackson
Mayor

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

[Signature]

City Attorney

SEAL

A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY ON
RECORD AND FILE IN THE OFFICIAL
RECORDS OF THE CITY OF LARGO,
FLORIDA.

BY Donne Free
City Clerk's Office

DATE 11-26-03

TIME 9:22 AM _____ PM