

Ordinance establishing Fire Department

Village makes it official

November 7, 1898

The following ordinance was presented for passage.

AN ORDINANCE Providing of the establishment of a Volunteer Fire Department for the Village of Riverside, Cook County, Illinois.

BE IT ORDAINED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Riverside :-

SECTION 1. That there is hereby established a Volunteer Fire Department for the Village of Riverside, which shall consist of a Fire Marshal, an Assistant Fire Marshal and thirty members or such other numbers as the President and Board of Trustees may from time to time direct.

SECTION 2. The Fire Marshal and Assistant Fire Marshal shall be elected by the members of the Fire Department, subject to the approval of the President and Board of Trustees, and shall hold office for the term of one year unless removed for cause before the expiration of said year.

The members of said Department shall be chosen in accordance with the By-Laws of said Department.

SECTION 3. It shall be the duty of the Fire Marshal, if in his power, to attend all fires occurring in said Village, and in case of his absence from any fire it shall be the duty of the Assistant Fire Marshall, or the officer in command of the first company on the ground at said fire to take command of the Department, and during the absence of said Marshal he shall have and exercise all the power of Fire Marshal.

SECTION 4. The Fire Marshal shall have the sole and absolute control and command over all persons connected with the Department of said Village while on duty, he shall possess full power and authority over its organization, government and discipline while on duty, and to that end he may prescribe from time to time such rules and regulations as he may deem advisable, subject to the approval of the President and Board of Trustees.

SECTION 5. The Fire Marshal shall have custody, subject to the President and Board of Trustees, of the Hose Carts, Trucks, Ladders and all property and equipment belonging to the Fire Department.

SECTION 6. He shall, at the first meeting of the President and Board of Trustees in April of each year, make a full and complete report, as near as can be ascertained, of the number of fires, the cause thereof, all accidents by fire, and the number of and the description of the buildings damaged or destroyed, together with the names of the owners, and such other statistics and suggestions as he may deem suitable.

SECTION 7. The Fire Marshal, or officer in command, may prescribe limits in the vicinity of

the fire within which no person except those residing therein, fireman, policemen, officers of the Village and those admitted by the officer in command shall be permitted to go.

SECTION 8. He shall have the power to cause the removal of any property wherever it shall become necessary for the preservation of said property from fire, or to prevent the spreading of fire or to protect adjoining property.

SECTION 9. It shall be lawful for the Fire Marshal, Assistant Fire Marshal, or any officer in command of any fire company, to require the aid of any teamster with his horse and vehicle, or any resident or bystander, in drawing or conveying any fire apparatus to any fire and in working or in using the same while at a fire, and on the refusal or neglect of any person to comply with such requisition the offender shall for every default forfeit and pay not less than \$5.00 nor more than \$20.00.

SECTION 10. Any person who shall willfully offer any hindrance to any fireman in the performance of his duty at a fire, or shall willfully in any manner destroy, injure or deface any fire apparatus belonging to the Village of Riverside, shall for each such offense forfeit and pay a penalty of not less than \$5.00 nor more than \$20.00.

SECTION 11. No person shall be entitled to take away any property in the possession of the Fire Department, saved from any fire, until proof of ownership be made satisfactory to the Fire Marshal.

SECTION 12. The Fire Marshal shall make suitable regulations under which the officers and men of the Department shall be required to wear some appropriate uniform or badge by which in case of fire the authority of such officers and men in said Department shall be known.

SECTION 13. The Fire Marshal, Assistant Fire Marshal, or any member of the Fire Department shall have power during the time of a fire to arrest any suspected person or persons, or any person hindering, resisting or conducting himself in a disorderly manner, or refusing to obey any such firemen while acting in the discharge of their duties, and, as soon as their duties in relation to the extinguishment of the fire will permit, take such person or persons before a magistrate to be dealt with according to the law. All firemen shall, during such time, be severally vested with the usual power and authority of a police officer to command all persons to assist them in the performance of such duties.

SECTION 14. The several members of the Fire Department shall receive such compensation as the President and Board of Trustees shall from time to time direct..

SECTION 15. This ordinance shall be in force from and after its passage and approval.

Trustee Seckel moved the ordinance be placed in to passage.

Seconded by Trustee Story.

On calling the ayes & nays of the question the vote was

Ayes-Trustee Maclean, Richardson, Seckel, Sumerville, and Story

Nays- none