

TITLE 3 - PUBLIC SAFETY

Chapter 3 - Address Markers

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3.3.1 Purpose.

The purpose of this Chapter is to maintain address markers on every occupied parcel of real property in the Town of Grafton in a visible location and in good readable condition to facilitate law enforcement, fire prevention and control, medical and safety services, and the comfort, health, safety, and general welfare of the Town of Grafton, Wisconsin.

3.3.2 Installation.

3.3.2.01 Installation of Address Markers

- (A) As and when real property is developed in the Town, the Town of Grafton will furnish an address marker at the landowner's cost for each such property with instructions for locating and installing such marker. See Title 7, Ch. 7. After installation, the Town will make available at the landowner's expense materials to repair or replace the address marker, but the maintenance and preservation of the marker shall be the responsibility of the owner of the real estate for which the marker was furnished.
- (B) The address marker shall remain the property of the Town of Grafton.
- (C) To ensure that emergency responders can timely locate and identify all properties within the Town, property owners on private roads shall be required to purchase and install address markers on their properties, in accordance with the directives set forth in Section 7.7.16.01 of Title 7, Chapter 7 of the Town Code. For purposes of this section and Title 7, Chapter 7, a private road is any shared road or shared drive that serves as principal access to two or more lots, as defined in Title 9, Chapter 2. Private roads shall be marked with Town-installed address markers at the intersection of the private road and the Town road, and each lot on the private road shall also be marked with a separate, Town-installed address marker within 10 feet of either side of the entrance of the lot, in accordance with Section 7.7.16.01. To expedite this safety measure, the Town shall purchase the required number of markers and employ a contractor of its choosing to install them. The cost of the signpost, the address marker and its installation on the respective properties shall be paid as a special charge to the Town Treasurer by the property owner within 90 days of installation. In the event such cost is not paid to the Town Treasurer within 90 days of the installation, the delinquent special charge shall become a lien on the property and shall be included in the current or next tax roll for collection as allowed by § 66.0627(4), Wis. Stat.

3.3.2.02 Replacement of Address Markers

If the address marker of a property is obliterated, damaged, destroyed or removed, the property owner shall restore the marker within fifteen (15) days at his or her cost. If the property owner fails to restore the marker then the Town shall restore the marker and charge the property owner an administrative fee, set forth in Sec. 1.3.4, TGO, and the actual cost of restoration. This fee and costs shall be a special charge and shall be collected as provided in Sec. 2.8.1, TGO

3.3.3 Enforcement.

3.3.3.01 Designation of Enforcement Officer

- (A) Any Town official shall be deemed to be an enforcement officer for the purposes of furnishing and/or installing an address marker for properties in the Town of Grafton; and for issuing the notice provided under Sec. 3.3.3.02 of this Ordinance.
- (B) Pursuant to Sec. 66.0113(2)(a), Wis. Stats., the Town Building Inspector is hereby designated as the enforcement officer empowered to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance and to issue citations therefor. The duties of the enforcement officer shall include an annual inspection of properties in the Town to ensure compliance with this Ordinance. These inspections may include physical entry upon the property, with permission of the owner. If an owner refuses permission for the enforcement officer to enter for purposes of inspection, the enforcement officer may obtain a warrant of entry pursuant to Sec. 66.0119, Wis. Stats., and take any other reasonable measures to further enforcement of this Ordinance.

3.3.3.02 Notice of Violation

If the address marker of a property is not properly located as provided in Sec. 3.3.2.01(A) above; or is obliterated, damaged, destroyed or removed; any Town official may issue a notice to the property owner to restore the marker within fifteen (15) days. The notice shall state that upon the failure to take corrective action as directed in the notice, the Town may, at its option, cause the work to be done in the manner it deems appropriate, and will charge back the costs thereof to the owner. Upon completion of the work, the Town shall bill the owner for the costs thereof, and shall notify the owner that failure to pay the costs within thirty (30) days of the date of the bill will result in placing the cost of repairing or replacing the marker on the owner's tax bill as a special assessment against the property pursuant to Sec. 66.0703, Wis. Stats.

3.3.4 Penalties.

- (A) Forfeiture.
Any person who obliterates, removes, damages, destroys, fails to properly locate or fails to timely replace an address marker shall forfeit not less than Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) nor more than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) for each offense plus any penalty or other assessments imposed by statute and the cost of prosecution. On default of payment on the above forfeiture plus penalty assessments and costs of prosecution, the person convicted may, at the option of the court, either be confined to the county jail for not more than thirty (30) days, or until such forfeiture, penalty assessment and costs of prosecution have been paid, whichever first occurs; or, shall have his driver's license suspended for not less than thirty (30) days nor more than five (5) years until the judgment is paid.
- (B) Injunctive Relief.
The Town Board of Grafton may authorize the commencement of appropriate action or proceeding to prohibit the owner, resident, agent or

occupant of the real estate within the Town of Grafton from removing, destroying, obliterating or damaging an address marker in violation of this ordinance.

In addition to the other costs and fees set forth, the Town shall assess administrative and inspection costs as provided in Sec. 1.3.4, TGO

(C)

Lien.

In addition to any other remedy provided herein or in any other Town ordinance, if the violations remain uncorrected after the time specified in the notice referred to in Sec. 3.3.2.02 above, the Town may, at its election, have the violations corrected at Town expense and have a lien placed against the property pursuant to Sec. 66.0703(1)(b), Wis. Stats. equal to the cost of the replacement and administrative costs.

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