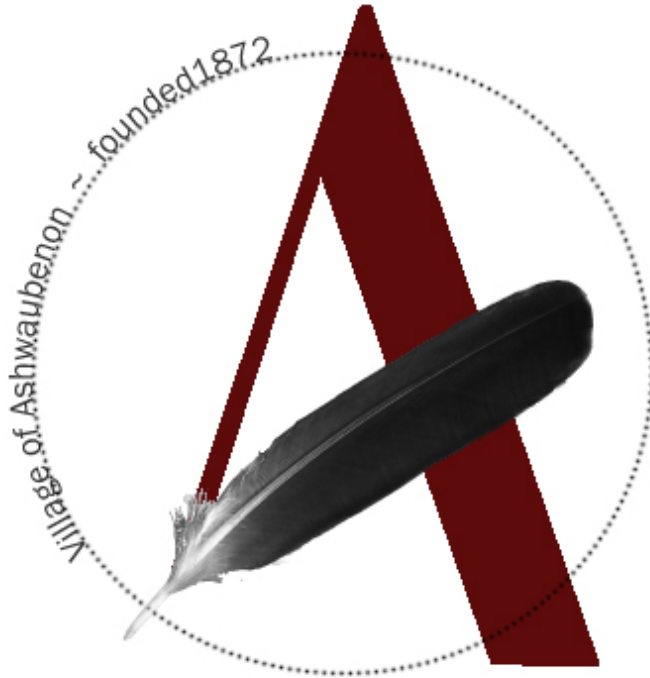


Village of Ashwaubenon

Municipal Code Book

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Printed for:
Chapter 10 - Emergency Services

Municipal Code Book

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Chapter 10 - Emergency Services

Article 1 - Emergency Alarm Systems

10-1-19 Purpose

The primary purpose of this article is to reduce the incidents of false burglar and holdup alarms by eliminating those false alarms which are preventable or avoidable. It is also meant to encourage the installation of reliable emergency alarm systems in all structures within the village in order to provide additional protection to persons and property from fire; crime, including burglary, robbery and vandalism; and other hazards that may constitute a danger to persons and property. This article is intended to impose standards and requirements from such causes as the negligence of the user of an alarm system or of his employees in operating the system, the maintenance of equipment or the sale, installation or servicing of such installations will provide a technique of early detection, which will permit the department of public safety to increase the present level of protection to persons and property.

(Code 2006, § 27.01; Ord. No. O9-4-95, 9-26-1995; Ord. No. O10-1-09, § 1, 10-13-2009)

10-1-20 Definitions

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

False alarm means a signal from an alarm system that alerts the department of public safety that results in an emergency response from the department when a situation of emergency does not exist.

Fire alarm means any device designed for the detection of a fire that alerts the department of public safety of such occurrence and, when activated, gives a signal, either visual or audible, or both, and transmits or causes to be transmitted a signal.

Local alarm means a system that gives a signal, either visual or audible, or both, on the exterior or interior portion of the property, but does not leave that structure to a central control receiving location.

Security alarm system means any device designed for the detection of an unauthorized entry on the premises, an unlawful act or any emergency that alerts the department of public safety of its commission or occurrence and, when activated, gives a signal, either visual or audible, or both, and transmits or causes to be transmitted a signal.

Stand alone smoke detector means a stand alone smoke detector activated and an audible alarm will sound inside the premises and is not transmitted to an alarm monitoring system.

Life-line device means a wireless transmitter that is activated in an event of a medical emergency. When the medical device is activated the signal is transmitted to an alarm monitoring station and medical personnel may dispatch to the site where the device is activated.

(Code 2006, § 27.02; Ord. No. O9-4-95, 9-26-1995; Ord. No. O10-1-09, § 1, 10-13-2009)

10-1-21 Alarm Permits

- (A) *Required.* No person shall install or cause to be installed any alarm system for any premises in the village until an alarm permit therefore has been issued by the village, with the exception of a stand-alone smoke detector, which does not transmit to an alarm system, and a medical/life-line device.
- (B) *Application for permit.* An application for an alarm permit shall be provided by the village and shall require an applicant to furnish information sufficient to identify the applicant, the location of the premises to be protected by the alarm system and such other information as the department of public safety may deem necessary for safe and proper emergency response. The annual residential or business alarm permit fee for a full year or partial year shall be on file in the office of the clerk-treasurer and shall be collected at the time of application. A permit shall be required for each premises alarmed or each separate alarm system on a single premises.
- (C) *Issuance of alarm permit.* The village clerk-treasurer shall issue an alarm permit to the applicant upon approval of the chief of public safety. The alarm permit shall be issued for a period of 12 months, expiring on December 31 of each year. Applicants that are denied alarm permits may appeal the denial to the public works and protection committee.
- (D) *Existing alarm systems.* For those systems installed on premises within the village prior to October 1, 1995, a permit shall be obtained within 60 days after the effective date of the ordinance from which this article is derived. With respect to any alarm system installed after the effective date of the ordinance from which this article is derived, a permit must be issued before the system is installed.

(Code 2006, § 27.03; Ord. No. O9-4-95, 9-26-1995; Ord. No. O6-6-02, 6-25-2002; Ord. No. O10-1-09, § 1, 10-13-2009)

10-1-22 Operational Requirements

- (A) *Duty to maintain alarm system.* The property owner shall be responsible for maintaining the alarm system in proper working order.
- (B) *Duty to respond to alarm.* The owner or other keyholder of a premises protected by an alarm system must respond to the protected premises within 45 minutes of notification of an alarm. The responder shall assist public safety officers in gaining access to the building for the purpose of inspection. The owner is also responsible for resetting the alarm system. Under no circumstances shall a member of the department of public safety reset an alarm. The owner of an alarmed premises shall provide current information on persons to be contacted in the owner's absence.
- (C) *Time delay and shutoff.* All security alarm systems shall be equipped with a 20-second time delay in case the alarm is accidentally tripped. All local alarms shall be equipped with a 15-minute automatic shutoff or some other secure means of turning off the alarm.

(Code 2006, § 27.04; Ord. No. O9-4-95, 9-26-1995; Ord. No. O10-1-09, § 1, 10-13-2009)

10-1-23 False Alarms

- (A) *Special charges.* After the alarm system has been installed for 30 days, the owner shall be subject to a special charge for each false alarm in a 12-month period, per calendar year. The charge for the first false alarm and each subsequent false alarm in a 12-month period shall be on file in the office of the clerk-treasurer. The special charges for false alarms shall be doubled for those premises that have not obtained the required alarm permit.
- (B) *Exceptions.* The following exceptions to the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall apply:
 - (1) Municipal alarms.
 - (2) False alarms caused by outside sources. Any special charge may be waived by the chief of public safety if the owner can show that the alarm system was properly maintained and the false alarm was not the result of the negligence on the part of the owner, his agent or employees.
 - (3) Medical or life-line devices.
- (C) *Collection of special charges.* Special charges for false alarms, as provided in subsection (a) of this section, shall be billed to the owner and, if not timely paid, shall be placed on the tax roll pursuant to the provisions of Wis. Stats. § 66.0627, for collection and settlement under Wis. Stats. ch. 74.

(Code 2006, § 27.05; Ord. No. O9-4-95, 9-26-1995; Ord. No. O6-2-97, 6-24-1997; Ord. No. O11-4-01, 11-27-2001; Ord. No. O10-1-09, § 1, 10-13-2009)

10-1-24 Permit Cancellation; Alarm Disconnection; Telephone Alarm Dialers; Automobile Alarms; Limitation of Liability; Penalty

- (A) *Permit cancellation; alarm disconnection.* Whenever there is a record of an excessive number of alarms or the operation of the alarm system is not consistent with the purpose of this article, the director of public safety may, in writing, require the owner to repair or replace the alarm system within ten days. If the repair or replacement is not made within ten days, the chief of public safety may order the alarm permit canceled and the alarm disconnected. No person shall continue to operate an alarm system for which an alarm permit has been canceled.
- (B) *Telephone alarm dialers.* Telephone alarm dialers are not permitted to be programmed to direct dial the department of public safety, except by special permission of the director of public safety.
- (C) *Motor vehicle alarms.* This section shall not apply to audible alarms affixed to motor vehicles.
- (D) *Limitation of liability.* The village shall not be liable for any defects in any alarm system or the central board, or any transmission malfunctions or delays.
- (E) *Penalty.* Any person who violates any provision of this article shall be subject to a penalty as provided in Chapter 1, Section 1-13.

(Code 2006, § 27.06; Ord. No. O9-4-95, 9-26-1995; Ord. No. O10-1-09, § 1, 10-13-2009)