

**CODE OF ORDINANCES  
OF THE  
CITY OF  
BELMOND, IOWA**

**Prepared By: Local Government Professional Services, Inc.  
DBA Iowa Codification  
P. O. Box 244  
114 E 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Storm Lake, Iowa 50588  
(641) 355-4072  
[www.sc-ic.com](http://www.sc-ic.com)**







## CHAPTER 30

# POLICE DEPARTMENT

30.01 Department Established  
30.02 Organization  
30.03 Peace Officer Qualifications  
30.04 Required Training  
30.05 Compensation  
30.06 Peace Officers Appointed

30.07 Powers and Duties of Police Chief  
30.08 Departmental Rules  
30.09 Summoning Aid  
30.10 Taking Weapons  
30.11 Contract Law Enforcement

**30.01 DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHED.** The Police Department of the City is established to provide for the preservation of peace and enforcement of law and ordinances within the corporate limits of the City.

**30.02 ORGANIZATION.** The department consists of the Police Chief and such other law enforcement officers and personnel, whether full or part time, as may be authorized by the Council.

**30.03 PEACE OFFICER QUALIFICATIONS.** In no case shall any person be selected or appointed as a law enforcement officer unless such person meets the minimum qualification standards established by the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy.  
*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 80B.11)*

**30.04 REQUIRED TRAINING.** All peace officers shall have received the minimum training required by law at an approved law enforcement training school within one year of employment. Peace officers shall also meet the minimum in-service training as required by law.  
*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 80B.11[2])*  
*(IAC, 501-3 and 501-8)*

**30.05 COMPENSATION.** Members of the department are designated by rank and receive such compensation as shall be determined by resolution of the Council.

**30.06 PEACE OFFICERS APPOINTED.** The Mayor shall appoint and dismiss the Police Chief subject to the consent of a majority of the Council. The Police Chief shall select, subject to the approval of Council, the other members of the department.  
*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.4)*

**30.07 POWERS AND DUTIES OF POLICE CHIEF.** The Police Chief has the following powers and duties subject to the approval of the Council.  
*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])*

1. General. Perform all duties required of the Police Chief by law or ordinance.
2. Enforce Laws. Enforce all laws, ordinances, and regulations and bring all persons committing any offense before the proper court.
3. Writs. Execute and return all writs and other processes directed to the Police Chief.

4. Accident Reports. Report all motor vehicle accidents investigated to the State Department of Transportation.  
*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.266)*
5. Prisoners. Be responsible for the custody of prisoners, including conveyance to detention facilities as may be required.
6. Assist Officials. When requested, provide aid to other City officers, boards, and commissions in the execution of their official duties.
7. Investigations. Provide for such investigation as may be necessary for the prosecution of any person alleged to have violated any law or ordinance.
8. Record of Arrests. Keep a record of all arrests made in the City by showing whether said arrests were made under provisions of State law or City ordinance, the offense charged, who made the arrest and the disposition of the charge.
9. Reports. Compile and submit to the Mayor and Council an annual report as well as such other reports as may be requested by the Mayor or Council.
10. Command. Be in command of all officers appointed for police work and be responsible for the care, maintenance, and use of all vehicles, equipment, and materials of the department.

**30.08 DEPARTMENTAL RULES.** The Police Chief shall establish such rules, not in conflict with the Code of Ordinances, and subject to the approval of the Council, as may be necessary for the operation of the department.

**30.09 SUMMONING AID.** Any peace officer making a legal arrest may orally summon as many persons as the officer reasonably finds necessary to aid the officer in making the arrest.  
*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 804.17)*

**30.10 TAKING WEAPONS.** Any person who makes an arrest may take from the person arrested all items that are capable of causing bodily harm which the arrested person may have within such person's control, to be disposed of according to law.  
*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 804.18)*

**30.11 CONTRACT LAW ENFORCEMENT.** In lieu of the appointment of a Police Chief by the Mayor as provided by Section 30.06, the Council may contract with the County Sheriff or any other qualified lawful entity to provide law enforcement services within the City and in such event the Sheriff or such other entity shall have and exercise the powers and duties of the Police Chief as provided herein.  
*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 28E.30)*

## CHAPTER 31

### RESERVE PEACE OFFICERS

31.01 Establishment of Force  
31.02 Training  
31.03 Status of Reserve Officers  
31.04 Carrying Weapons  
31.05 Supplementary Capacity  
31.06 Supervision of Officers

31.07 No Reduction of Regular Force  
31.08 Benefits When Injured  
31.09 Liability and False Arrest Insurance  
31.10 No Participation in Pension Fund or Retirement System  
31.11 Bylaws

**31.01 ESTABLISHMENT OF FORCE.** A force of reserve peace officers is hereby established. A reserve peace officer is a volunteer, non-regular, sworn member of the Police Department who has regular police powers while functioning as the Police Department's representative, and will participate on a regular basis in the agency's activities, including those of crime prevention and control, preservation of the peace and enforcement of the law. Members shall be appointed by the Mayor, subject to approval of the Council. No member shall receive compensation for services in the Reserve, except as otherwise provided by law. Membership of the Police Reserve shall be limited to 12 members.

**31.02 TRAINING.** Training for individuals appointed as reserve peace officers shall be provided by instructors in a community college or other facility, including a law enforcement agency, selected by the individual and approved by the law enforcement agency and the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. All standards and training required under Chapter 80D of the *Code of Iowa* constitute the minimum standards for reserve peace officers. Upon satisfactory completion of training, the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy shall certify the individual as a reserve peace officer. There shall be no exemptions from the personal and training standards provided for in this chapter.

**31.03 STATUS OF RESERVE OFFICERS.** Reserve peace officers shall serve as peace officers on the orders and at the discretion of the Police Chief. While in the actual performance of official duties, reserve peace officers shall be vested with the same rights, privileges, obligations and duties as any other peace officer.

**31.04 CARRYING WEAPONS.** A member of the reserve force shall not carry a weapon in the line of duty until he or she has been approved by the Council and certified by the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy Council. After approval and certification, a reserve peace officer may carry a weapon in the line of duty only when authorized by the Police Chief.

**31.05 SUPPLEMENTARY CAPACITY.** Reserve peace officers shall act only in a supplementary capacity to the regular force and shall not assume full-time duties of regular peace officers without first complying with all the requirements of regular peace officers.

**31.06 SUPERVISION OF OFFICERS.** Reserve peace officers shall be subordinate to the Police Chief, shall not serve as peace officers unless under the direction of the Police Chief, and shall wear a uniform prescribed by the Police Chief, unless that superior officer designates alternate apparel for use when engaged in assignments involving special investigations, civil process, court duties, jail duties and the handling of mental patients. The reserve peace officers shall not wear an insignia of rank.

**31.07 NO REDUCTION OF REGULAR FORCE.** There shall be no reduction of the authorized size of the regular law enforcement department of the City because of the establishment or utilization of reserve peace officers.

**31.08 BENEFITS WHEN INJURED.** Hospital and medical assistance and benefits, as provided in Chapter 85 of the *Code of Iowa*, shall be provided by the Council to members of the reserve force who sustain injury in the course of performing official duties.

**31.09 LIABILITY AND FALSE ARREST INSURANCE.** Liability and false arrest insurance shall be provided by the City to members of the reserve force while performing official duties in the same manner as for regular peace officers.

**31.10 NO PARTICIPATION IN PENSION FUND OR RETIREMENT SYSTEM.** This chapter shall not be construed to authorize or permit a reserve peace officer to become eligible for participation in a pension fund or retirement system created by the laws of the State and of which regular peace officers may become members.

**31.11 BYLAWS.** The Police Reserve shall adopt bylaws, not inconsistent with law, for its organization and operation, but the same or any amendments thereto shall not be effective until approved by the Council.



## CHAPTER 35

# FIRE DEPARTMENT

35.01 Establishment and Purpose  
35.02 Organization  
35.03 Approved by Council  
35.04 Training  
35.05 Compensation  
35.06 Election of Officers  
35.07 Duties of Fire Chief

35.08 Obedience to Fire Chief  
35.09 Constitution  
35.10 Accidental Injury Insurance  
35.11 Liability Insurance  
35.12 Calls Outside City  
35.13 Mutual Aid  
35.14 Authority to Cite Violations

**35.01 ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.** A volunteer fire department is hereby established to prevent and extinguish fires and to protect lives and property against fires, to promote fire prevention and fire safety, and to answer all emergency calls for which there is no other established agency.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.16)*

**35.02 ORGANIZATION.** The department consists of the Fire Chief and such other officers and personnel as may be authorized by the Council.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])*

**35.03 APPROVED BY COUNCIL.** No person having otherwise qualified shall be appointed to the department until such appointment is submitted to and approved by a majority of the Council members.

**35.04 TRAINING.** All members of the department shall meet the minimum training standards established by the State Fire Marshal and attend and actively participate in regular or special training drills or programs as directed by the Fire Chief.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 100B.2[4])*

**35.05 COMPENSATION.** Members of the department shall be designated by rank and receive such compensation as shall be determined by resolution of the Council.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])*

**35.06 ELECTION OF OFFICERS.** The department shall annually elect a Fire Chief and such other officers as its constitution and bylaws may provide, but the election of Fire Chief shall be subject to the approval of the Council. In case of absence of the Fire Chief, the officer next in rank shall be in charge and have and exercise all the powers of Fire Chief.

**35.07 DUTIES OF FIRE CHIEF.** The Fire Chief shall perform all duties required of the Fire Chief by law or ordinance, including (but not limited to) the following:

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 372.13[4])*

1. Enforce Laws. Enforce ordinances and laws regulating fire prevention and the investigation of the cause, origin, and circumstances of fires.
2. Technical Assistance. Upon request, give advice concerning private fire alarm systems, fire extinguishing equipment, fire escapes and exits, and development of fire emergency plans.

3. Authority at Fires. When in charge of a fire scene, direct an operation as necessary to extinguish or control a fire, perform a rescue operation, investigate the existence of a suspected or reported fire, gas leak, or other hazardous condition, or take any other action deemed necessary in the reasonable performance of the department's duties.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 102.2)*

4. Control of Scenes. Prohibit an individual, vehicle, or vessel from approaching a fire scene and remove from the scene any object, vehicle, vessel, or individual that may impede or interfere with the operation of the Fire Department.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 102.2)*

5. Authority to Barricade. When in charge of a fire scene, place or erect ropes, guards, barricades, or other obstructions across a street, alley, right-of-way, or private property near the location of the fire or emergency so as to prevent accidents or interference with the firefighting efforts of the Fire Department, to control the scene until any required investigation is complete, or to preserve evidence related to the fire or other emergency.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 102.3)*

6. Command. Be charged with the duty of maintaining the efficiency, discipline, and control of the Fire Department. The members of the Fire Department shall, at all times, be subject to the direction of the Fire Chief.

7. Property. Exercise and have full control over the disposition of all fire apparatus, tools, equipment, and other property used by or belonging to the Fire Department.

8. Notification. Whenever death, serious bodily injury, or property damage in excess of \$200,000.00 has occurred as a result of a fire, or if arson is suspected, notify the State Fire Marshal's Division immediately. For all other fires causing an estimated damage of \$50.00 or more or emergency responses by the Fire Department, file a report with the Fire Marshal's Division within 10 days following the end of the month. The report shall indicate all fire incidents occurring and state the name of the owners and occupants of the property at the time of the fire, the value of the property, the estimated total loss to the property, origin of the fire as determined by investigation, and other facts, statistics, and circumstances concerning the fire incidents.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 100.2 & 100.3)*

9. Right of Entry. Have the right, during reasonable hours, to enter any building or premises within the Fire Chief's jurisdiction for the purpose of making such investigation or inspection that under law or ordinance may be necessary to be made and that is reasonably necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 100.12)*

10. Recommendation. Make such recommendations to owners, occupants, caretakers, or managers of buildings necessary to eliminate fire hazards.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 100.13)*

11. Assist State Fire Marshal. At the request of the State Fire Marshal, and as provided by law, aid said marshal in the performance of duties by investigating, preventing and reporting data pertaining to fires.

12. Records. Cause to be kept records of the Fire Department personnel, firefighting equipment, depreciation of all equipment and apparatus, the number of

responses to alarms, their cause, and location, and an analysis of losses by value, type and location of buildings.

13. Reports. Compile and submit to the Mayor and Council an annual report of the status and activities of the department as well as such other reports as may be requested by the Mayor or Council.

**35.08 OBEDIENCE TO FIRE CHIEF.** No person shall willfully fail or refuse to comply with any lawful order or direction of the Fire Chief.

**35.09 CONSTITUTION.** The department shall adopt a constitution and bylaws as they deem calculated to accomplish the object contemplated, and such constitution and bylaws and any change or amendment to such constitution and bylaws before being effective, must be approved by the Council.

**35.10 ACCIDENTAL INJURY INSURANCE.** The Council shall contract to insure the City against liability for worker's compensation and against statutory liability for the costs of hospitalization, nursing, and medical attention for volunteer firefighters injured in the performance of their duties as firefighters whether within or outside the corporate limits of the City. All volunteer firefighters shall be covered by the contract.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 85.2, 85.61 and Sec. 410.18)*

**35.11 LIABILITY INSURANCE.** The Council shall contract to insure against liability of the City or members of the department for injuries, death or property damage arising out of and resulting from the performance of departmental duties within or outside the corporate limits of the City.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 670.2 & 517A.1)*

**35.12 CALLS OUTSIDE CITY.** The department shall answer calls to fires and other emergencies outside the City limits if the Fire Chief determines that such emergency exists and that such action will not endanger persons and property within the City limits.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.4[2 & 3])*

**35.13 MUTUAL AID.** Subject to approval by resolution of the Council, the department may enter into mutual aid agreements with other legally constituted fire departments. Copies of any such agreements shall be filed with the Clerk.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.4[2 & 3])*

**35.14 AUTHORITY TO CITE VIOLATIONS.** Fire officials acting under the authority of Chapter 100 of the *Code of Iowa* may issue citations in accordance to Chapter 805 of the *Code of Iowa*, for violations of State and/or local fire safety regulations.

*(Code of Iowa, Sec. 100.41)*

[The next page is 151]