Chapter 2.48 Fire Department

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2.48.010 Composition of the Volunteer Fire Department

A volunteer fire department of the City of Dillon, Montana, known as the “Dillon Volunteer Fire Department,” consists of a Chief, an Assistant Chief, Captains, Firefighters and such companies as may be determined by the Chief subject to the consent and approval of the City Council.

Enc Ord 367 March 18, 1993, Enc Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Amended Ord 456 February 7, 2018

2.48.020 Election and Appointment of the Chief and Assistant Chief

The Chief and Assistant Chief must be elected by members of the department at the first regular meeting of the department for the month of April each year, but must not take office until appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council.

Enc Ord 367 March 18, 1993, Enc Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Enc Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Revised Ord 456 February 7, 2018

2.48.030 Term of Office

The Chief and Assistant Chief must hold office for the term of one year, or until a successor is duly elected, appointed and confirmed.

Enc Ord 367 March 18, 1993, Enc Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Amended Ord 456 February 7, 2018

2.48.040 Chief and Assistant Chief – Duties

1. The Chief of the fire department must have sole command and control over persons connected with the fire department and must possess full power and authority over the fire department organization, government, and discipline and to that end may from time to time establish such disciplinary rules as may be deemed advisable, subject to the approval of the City Council. The Fire Chief must have charge of and is responsible for fire engines and other apparatus and property of the City furnished to the fire department and must see that such equipment is at all times ready for use in emergency situations.
2. The Assistant Fire Chief of the fire department must aid the Chief in the work of the department and in the Chief’s absence must perform the duties of the Fire Chief.

Enc Ord 367 March 18, 1993, Enc Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Enc Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Revised Ord 456 February 7, 2018

2.48.050 Appointment of Firefighters and Captains

The Fire Chief nominates, and the Mayor appoints with the consent of the City Council, firefighters and Captains.

Enc Ord 367 March 18, 1993, Enc Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Revised Ord 456 February 7, 2018

2.48.055 Qualifications of Firefighters

The State of Montana and the City of Dillon acknowledge the qualifications for the firefighting profession must recognize the rigorous physical demands placed on firefighters and the expectation of many years of emergency service. To qualify as a firefighter an applicant:

1. Must be a citizen of the United States;
2. Must be at least eighteen (18) years of age;
3. Must be a high school graduate or have been issued a high school equivalency diploma by the superintendent of public instruction or by an appropriate issuing agency of another state or of the federal government;
4. Must possess or be eligible for a valid Montana driver’s license;
5. May not have been convicted of a crime for which the applicant may have been imprisoned in a federal or state penitentiary. This includes a conviction after the applicant has been sworn as a firefighter.

Enc Ord 456 February 7, 2018

2.48.060 Chief - Report to the Council

Once at the second regular Council meeting of the calendar year, unless the Council requests more frequent reports, the Chief must report to the Council the amount of fire apparatus available for use, condition of equipment, number of fire alarms during the fiscal year, owners of property damaged or destroyed, estimated dollar amount of damage and make such recommendations as may be deemed proper. A true and correct record of fire apparatus belonging to the City and matters pertaining to the office and the department must be kept. Such records must be open to inspection by the Mayor and the City Council.

Enc Ord 367 March 18, 1993, Enc Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Revised Ord 456 February 7, 2018

2.48.070 Welfare of Department

There must be paid to the fire department, for its use for the general welfare of the department an amount set by the Council each year by final budget. Such budget must show by line item, monies to be spent by the City fire department only.

Enc Ord 367 March 18, 1993, Enc Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Revised Ord 456 February 7, 2018

2.48.080 Ranking of Officers Provided by Bylaws

In accordance with fire department bylaws the department must provide for ranking of officers of the department. The officer ranking highest of those at a fire must be acting Chief until the arrival of a superior officer of the department.

Enc Ord 367 March 18, 1993, Enc Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Enc Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Revised Ord 456 February 7, 2018

2.48.090 Suspension of Chief and Assistant Chief

The Mayor may suspend, and the Council approval by a majority vote may discharge the Chief or Assistant Chief. Successors must be chosen in the same manner provided for in this chapter, and such successors must hold office for the remainder of the unexpired term of discharged officers.

Enc Ord 367 March 18, 1993, Enc Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Enc Ord 395 July 1, 1998, Revised Ord 456 February 7, 2018

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