

CHAPTER 135

STREET USE AND MAINTENANCE

135.01 Removal of Warning Devices

135.02 Obstructing or Defacing

135.03 Placing Debris On

135.04 Playing In

135.05 Traveling on Barricaded Street or Alley

135.06 Use for Business Purposes

135.07 Washing Vehicles

135.08 Burning Prohibited

135.09 Excavations

135.10 Maintenance of Parking or Terrace

135.11 Failure to Maintain Parking or Terrace

135.12 Dumping of Snow

135.13 Driveway Culverts

135.01 REMOVAL OF WARNING DEVICES. It is unlawful for a person to willfully remove, throw down, destroy or carry away from any street or alley any lamp, obstruction, guard or other article or things, or extinguish any lamp or other light, erected or placed thereupon for the purpose of guarding or enclosing unsafe or dangerous places in said street or alley without the consent of the person in control thereof.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 716.1)

135.02 OBSTRUCTING OR DEFACING. It is unlawful for any person to obstruct, deface, or injure any street or alley in any manner.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 716.1)

135.03 PLACING DEBRIS ON. It is unlawful for any person to throw or deposit on any street or alley any glass, glass bottle, nails, tacks, wire, cans, trash, garbage, rubbish, litter, offal, leaves, grass or any other debris likely to be washed into the storm sewer and clog the storm sewer, or any substance likely to injure any person, animal or vehicle.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.369)

135.04 PLAYING IN. It is unlawful for any person to coast, sled or play games on streets or alleys, except in the areas blocked off by the City for such purposes.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[2])

135.05 TRAVELING ON BARRICADED STREET OR ALLEY. It is unlawful for any person to travel or operate any vehicle on any street or alley temporarily closed by barricades, lights, signs, or flares placed thereon by the authority or permission of any City official, police officer or member of the fire department.

135.06 USE FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES. It is unlawful to park, store or place, temporarily or permanently, any machinery or junk or any other goods, wares, and merchandise of any kind upon any street or alley for the purpose of storage, exhibition, sale or offering same for sale, without permission of the Council.

135.07 WASHING VEHICLES. It is unlawful for any person to use any public sidewalk, street or alley for the purpose of washing or cleaning any automobile, truck equipment, or any vehicle of any kind when such work is done for hire or as a business. This does not prevent any person from washing or cleaning his or her own vehicle or equipment when it is lawfully parked in the street or alley.

135.08 BURNING PROHIBITED. No person shall burn any trash, leaves, rubbish or other combustible material in any curb and gutter or on any paved or surfaced street or alley.

135.09 EXCAVATIONS. No person shall dig, excavate or in any manner disturb any street, parking or alley except in accordance with the following:

1. Permit Required. No excavation shall be commenced without first obtaining a permit therefor. A written application for such permit shall be filed with the City and shall contain the following:

A. An exact description of the property, by lot and street number, in front of or along which it is desired to excavate;

B. A statement of the purpose, for whom and by whom the excavation is to be made;

C. The person responsible for the refilling of said excavation and restoration of the street or alley surface; and

D. Date of commencement of the work and estimated completion date.

2. Public Convenience. Streets and alleys shall be opened in the manner which will cause the least inconvenience to the public and admit the uninterrupted passage of water along the gutter on the street.

3. Barricades, Fencing and Lighting. Adequate barricades, fencing and warning lights meeting standards specified by the City shall be so placed as to protect the public from hazard. All excavations taking place within the right-of-way of the Iowa Department of Transportation shall be guarded by signs and warning configurations in conformance with the current volume of the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways*, as published by the Iowa Department of Transportation. Any costs incurred by the City in providing or maintaining adequate barricades, fencing or warning lights shall be paid to the City by the permit holder/property owner.

4. Bond Required. The applicant shall post with the City a penal bond in the minimum sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) issued by a surety company authorized to issue such bonds in the State. The bond shall guarantee the permittee's payment for any damage done to the City or to public property, and payment of all costs incurred by the City in the course of administration of this section. In lieu of a surety bond, a cash deposit of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) may be filed with the City.

5. Insurance Required. Each applicant shall also file a certificate of insurance indicating that the applicant is carrying public liability insurance in effect for the duration of the permit covering the applicant and all agents and employees in amounts acceptable to the City.

6. Backfilling and Repairing Paving. All pavement, cuts, excavations, backfills, surfacing and related activities affecting all City streets, avenues and alleys must be completed by the contractor or utility company in accordance with the City-approved specifications. All persons performing excavation operations are responsible for the maintenance of the completed excavation for a period of one year following closing and final surfacing of the excavation. The City will inspect each completed excavation prior to the expiration of the one-year period. If repairs are noted by the City, the person who performed the excavation will receive written notice to repair

same. Upon receipt of said notice the person shall complete the necessary repairs within five (5) working days.

7. Inspection. All work shall be subject to inspection by the City. Backfill shall not be deemed completed, and no resurfacing of any improved street or alley surface shall begin, until such backfill is inspected and approved by the City. The permit holder/property owner shall provide the City with notice at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time when inspection of backfill is desired.

8. Undermining. The undermining of pavements is not permitted, and when, in the judgment of the City Engineer, it is necessary to prevent undermining by caving, the person performing excavation operations will provide suitable bracing to prevent same in accordance with applicable State and Federal occupational safety and health laws.

9. Completion by the City. No excavation shall exceed forty-eight (48) hours from the time the permit is issued except by special permission from the City. Should any excavation exceed this time period, or in the event the work is improperly done, the City has the right to finish or correct the excavation work and charge any expenses therefor to the permit holder/property owner.

10. Emergency Excavations. In the event an emergency excavation is necessary after regular working hours or on Sundays or holidays, the person making such excavation shall make immediate application on the first working day thereafter for such permit and shall pay the fees as required by this chapter.

11. Responsibility for Costs. All costs and expenses incident to the excavation shall be borne by the permit holder and/or property owner. The permit holder and owner shall indemnify the City from any loss or damage that may directly or indirectly be occasioned by such excavation.

12. Notification. At least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the commencement of the excavation, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, the person performing the excavation shall contact the Statewide Notification Center and provide the center with the information required under Section 480.4 of the *Code of Iowa*.

13. Permit Fee. A permit fee in an amount set by resolution of the Council shall be payable at the time of filing the application with the City. A separate permit shall be required for each excavation.

14. Permit Issued. Upon approval of the application, filing of bond and insurance certificate, and payment of any required fees, a permit shall be issued.

15. Permit for Laying Conduit or Erecting Poles. If the excavation is for the purpose of laying conduit or erecting poles for the placing or stretching of wires or cables, then such permit shall not be granted until the City Engineer has been furnished a detailed statement of the location, district, and extent and number of ducts or conduits and the height, size, number and location of poles. In such case, the granting of a permit resides within the sound discretion of the Council, based upon consideration of any proposed negative effects balanced against any proposed positive effects from a grant of the permit.

16. Permit Exemption. City employees, utility companies and companies under contract with the City are exempt from the permit application requirement of this section.

135.10 MAINTENANCE OF PARKING OR TERRACE. It shall be the responsibility of the abutting property owner to maintain all property outside the lot and property lines and inside the curb lines upon the public streets, except that the abutting property owner shall not be required to remove diseased trees or dead wood on the publicly owned property or right-of-way. Maintenance includes timely mowing, trimming trees and shrubs and picking up litter.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[2c])

135.11 FAILURE TO MAINTAIN PARKING OR TERRACE. If the abutting property owner does not perform an action required under the above section within a reasonable time, the City may perform the required action and assess the cost against the abutting property for collection in the same manner as a property tax.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[2e])

135.12 DUMPING OF SNOW. It is unlawful for any person to throw, push, or place or cause to be thrown, pushed or placed, any ice or snow from private property, sidewalks, or driveways onto the traveled way of a street or alley so as to obstruct gutters, or impede the passage of vehicles upon the street or alley or to create a hazardous condition therein; except where, in the cleaning of large commercial drives in the business district it is absolutely necessary to move the snow onto the street or alley temporarily, such accumulation shall be removed promptly by the property owner or agent. Arrangements for the prompt removal of such accumulations shall be made prior to moving the snow.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12 [2])

135.13 DRIVEWAY CULVERTS. The property owner shall, at the owner's expense, install any culvert deemed necessary under any driveway or any other access to the owner's property, and before installing a culvert, permission must first be obtained from the City. In the event repairs are needed at any time with respect to culverts, it shall be the responsibility of the property owner to make such repairs, and, in the event the owner fails to do so, the City shall have the right to make the repairs. If the property owner fails to reimburse the City for the cost of said repairs, the cost shall be certified to the County Treasurer and specially assessed against the property as by law provided.

[The next page is 631]