

ORDINANCE NO. 2086

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Sections 2-53, 2-54, 2-55, 2-56 and 2-57 of Division 2 of Article IV of Chapter 2 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended; which Chapter 2 relates to ADMINISTRATION which Article IV relates to POLICE, which Division 2 relates to UNCLAIMED MONEY AND PROPERTY, which Section 2-53 relates to STORAGE, which Section 2-54 relates to RETURN TO OWNER, which Section 2-55 relates to RETURN TO FINDER, which Section 2-56 relates to MONEY NOT RETURNED, and which Section 2-57 relates to SALE OR USE OF PROPERTY NOT RETURNED.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Section 2-53 of Division 2, Article IV, Chapter 2 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended and reordained to read as follows:

Sec. 2-53. Storage.

Property described in section 2-52 of this Code shall be stored in a safe place, and money described in section 2-52 of this Code shall be deposited with the city collector for a period of sixty days, unless sooner claimed by and returned to the rightful owner or unless the property is dangerous or perishable.

Section 2. That Section 2-54 of Division 2, Article IV, Chapter 2 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended and reordained to read as follows:

Sec. 2-54. Return to owner.

During the sixty-day period, during which found and unclaimed money and property is deposited with the city collector, any such property may be returned or money paid to the rightful owner upon proof of ownership satisfactory to the superintendent of police after ten days' notice by mail to the person who delivered such property or money and any others who may have asserted a claim of ownership. Placing in the mail to the last known address shall be sufficient service of such notice. The decision of the superintendent of police shall be reviewed by the city manager, who, with the advice of the city attorney, shall affirm or reverse the decision of the superintendent.

Section 3. That Section 2-55 of Division 2, Article IV, Chapter 2 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended and reordained to read as follows:

Sec. 2-55. Return to finder.

Property or money received pursuant to section 2-52 of this Code and not returned to the rightful owner within a sixty-day period shall be returned to the person who delivered it to the police department, if, at the time of delivery, such person indicated in writing that he wished to assert a claim to the property or money as a finder and such person is not a policeman, policewoman or detective of the city.

Section 4. That Section 2-56 of Division 2, Article IV, Chapter 2 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended and reordained to read as follows:

Sec. 2-56. Money not returned.

All money received by the police department, pursuant to section 2-52 of this Code, and not returned to the rightful owner or the finder during the sixty-day period provided for in section 2-53 of this Code, shall be forthwith credited to the general fund of the city by the city collector.

Section 5. That Section 2-57 of Division 2, Article IV, Chapter 2 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended and reordained to read as follows:

Sec. 2-57. Sale or use of property not returned.

All property received by the police department pursuant to section 2-52 of this Code and not returned to the rightful owner or finder or otherwise disposed of within the sixty-day period shall be disposed of by the superintendent of police, pursuant to the terms of an advertisement which he shall cause to be inserted in a newspaper having general circulation in the city once a week for two successive weeks, which advertisement shall describe the property with reasonable certainty, and shall notify all persons interested that unless such property is claimed by the owner with satisfactory proof of ownership before a specified time and date, the property will be sold for cash at public auction to the highest bidder at a specified time and place.

Property advertised but not claimed or not bid on shall forthwith be reported to the city manager, who shall have the authority to use such property for the best interests of the city or order it destroyed.

Section 6. That the title of and an informal memorandum explaining this ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city not later than five days following its introduction together with a notice containing the time and place for a public hearing. The city clerk shall have the full text of this ordinance printed in sufficient numbers to supply copies to meet request. The city clerk shall note the date of introduction and first reading, the date of publication, the date of the public hearing, and the date of the second reading and final passage in the minutes of the meeting. This ordinance shall become effective the date of its final passage.

CHARLES E. BEATLEY, JR.
Mayor

FINAL PASSAGE: JANUARY 27, 1976