

Ordinance No. 697

AN ORDINANCE to amend and re-ordain Sec. 102, Title VII, Article 1, Chapter XI, of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia enacted as a whole July 2, 1940 and made effective August 5, 1940, as said Article 1, Chapter XI is amended by Ordinance No. 671, which said Chapter XI relates to traffic generally, which said Title VII relates to parking and stopping on highways, and which said Sec. 102 relates to disposition of unlawfully parked vehicles.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

1. That Sec. 102, Title VII, Article 1, Chapter XI, of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia enacted as a whole July 2, 1940 and made effective August 5, 1940, be and the same hereby is amended and reordained to read as follows:

Sec. 102 DISPOSITION OF UNLAWFULLY PARKED VEHICLES. (a) Whenever any unattended vehicle shall be found parked in violation of any traffic regulation, such vehicle may be removed or toward to the City Vehicle Impounding Yard by or under the direction of the City Traffic Engineer or Superintendent of Police, provided that no vehicle shall be towed away if at the time of the intended removal the owner or person for the time being in charge thereof is present and shall immediately remove said vehicle.

(b) It shall be the duty of the person removing, or directing the removal of any vehicle to immediately make a report thereof to the City Traffic Engineer and Superintendent of Police giving the type of vehicle registration information, and such other information as he may have, concerning the vehicle or its owners and the reason for its removal.

(c) It shall be the duty of the Superintendent of Police to notify the owner, claimant, or other person in charge of an impounded vehicle, as soon as possible of the nature and circumstances of the traffic violation for which, or as a result of which, such vehicle was impounded, and the procedure for the repossessing same, providing the vehicle has not already been released from the City Vehicle Impounding Yard. In the event such person has not been contacted within twelve (12) hours from the time of removal of any vehicle then the Superintendent of Police shall notify the owner of record of such vehicle by registered mail, provided that person can be ascertained, giving the same information as above stated.

(d) The owner of such impounded vehicle or other duly authorized person shall be permitted to repossess the same up to the time of sale by:

- (1) Payment of a \$3.00 towing charge.
- (2) Payment of storage charge at the rate of \$0.50 per day.
- (3) Payments of cost preliminary to sale, if any.
- (4) Posting appropriate collateral for his appearance in the courts of the City of Alexandria to answer for said traffic violation.

(e) The payment of towing and storage charges shall not operate to relieve the owner or agent from liability for any fine or penalty.

(f) It shall be the duty of the Superintendent of Police to keep a record of all vehicles impounded pursuant to this section and when any such vehicle shall not be claimed by and surrendered to the rightful owner thereof within sixty (60) days from the date of the impounding said Superintendent shall notify the Division of Motor

Vehicles of the State in which the car is registered of all the information he has available about said vehicle and of the fact that said vehicle will be sold in sixty (60) days. The Superintendent of Police shall then publish or cause to be published, in a newspaper of general circulation within the city two notices at least fifteen (15) days in advance giving a description of the vehicle, the date of impounding and the fact that the vehicle will be sold at public auction at a time and place clearly designated in said notice. The proceeds of any sale shall go first to pay the costs of towing, storage, and holding the sale. The balance shall go to the City of Alexandria. All sums above mentioned shall be paid to the City of Alexandria to be deposited in the General Fund.

2. That this ordinance shall be published in the Alexandria Gazette not later than two days following its introduction together with a notice containing the time and place for a public hearing. The clerk of the council 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.

Franklin P. Backus
Mayor

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