

12/02/2008

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 106-125 OF CHAPTER 106, ARTICLE III, WEED CONTROL, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER HILLS, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, TO ADJUST THE AMOUNT CHARGED TO OWNERS AND OCCUPANTS OF LAND FOR WEED CUTTING BY THE CITY, REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES AND PRESCRIBE A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS.

THE CITY OF ROCHESTER HILLS ORDAINS:

Section 1. Section 106-125 of Chapter 106, Article III of the Code of Ordinances shall be amended, as follows:

**Sec. 106-125. Cutting and destruction by city.**

- (a) *Action authorized.* If the following notice or a substantially similar notice is published in the month of March of any year in a newspaper regularly distributed in the city and the owner or occupant of any land to which this article applies shall fail or refuse to comply with section 106-124 after due notice, any officer, inspector or other agent authorized by the mayor may enter upon such land after May 1 of that year and as many times thereafter as is necessary to cut or destroy any and all noxious weeds located thereon.
- (b) *Published notice.* The notice as provided in subsection (a) of this section shall be substantially in the following form:

"TO ALL OWNERS OR OCCUPANTS OF LAND IN THE CITY OF  
ROCHESTER HILLS:

Notice is hereby given that after May 1 of this year the provisions of article III of chapter 106, Weed Control, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Rochester Hills will be enforced. This article requires the owner or occupant of:

- (1) Any lot in any subdivision in the city in which buildings have been erected on 60 percent of the lots in that subdivision to cut or destroy all noxious weeds growing on the lot;
- (2) Any land in the city which abuts an improved street in common usage to cut or destroy all noxious weeds growing on the land for a depth of 100 feet; and
- (3) Any land, platted or unplatted, in the city which abuts a subdivision in which buildings have been erected on 60 percent of the lots in that subdivision, or which abuts any school, park, playground or occupied residential property to cut or destroy all noxious weeds growing on the land for a depth of 100 feet.

If, after May 1 of this year, the owner or occupant of any land to which this article applies shall fail or refuse to comply with the provisions of this article, then any officer, inspector or other agent authorized by the City of Rochester Hills may enter upon the land as many times as is necessary, to cut or destroy all noxious weeds growing thereon. The owner or occupant of the land shall be responsible for all costs incurred by the city in connection with such cutting or destruction plus a 30 percent administrative fee.

If the charges are not paid within 30 days after billing, payment shall be deemed delinquent and shall be enforceable as a tax lien against the land.

Any person who violates any of the provisions of article III of chapter 106, Weed Control, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Rochester Hills, shall, in addition to the other obligations imposed thereby or by other applicable law, be responsible for a municipal civil infraction and subject to a civil fine as provided in section 66-37.

A copy of article III of chapter 106 and additional information may be obtained from the Rochester Hills Clerk's Offices."

- (c) *Means to be utilized.* In the discretion of the officer, inspector, or other agent authorized by the city, manual and/or mechanical means may be used, and all due care shall be taken to avoid unnecessary damage to any land.
- (d) *Responsibility for cost.* Responsibility for cost of weed cutting pursuant to this section shall be in accordance with the following:
  - (1) *Costs.* The owner or occupant of land shall be responsible for all costs incurred by the city in connection with weed cutting or destruction, plus ~~a 30 percent administrative fee~~ administration and enforcement. Accordingly, the City shall charge the owner or occupant 1.6 times the amount paid by the City to its weed cutting contractor.
  - (2) *Lien.* From the time of the commencement of the cutting and destruction of such noxious weeds, the city shall have a lien upon the land for the amount arising under subsection (d)(1) of this section.
- (e) *Collection of costs.* The city shall charge and collect all costs arising under subsection (d) of this section in accordance with section 90-30 of this Code.
  - (1) *Billing and delinquent charges.* If the charges arising under subsection (d) of this section are not paid by the owner or occupant of the land within 30 days after the date of billing the owner or occupant by regular mail, payment shall be deemed delinquent.
  - (2) *Enforcement of lien.* A lien created pursuant to this article shall be enforceable in the manner prescribed by the city Charter and state law for the enforcement of a tax lien against the land.

Section 2. Severability. This ordinance and each article, section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, part, provision, sentence, word and portion thereof are hereby declared to be severable, and if they or any of them are declared to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason

by a court of competent jurisdiction, it is hereby provided that the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

Section 3. Penalty. All violations of this ordinance shall be misdemeanors and upon conviction thereof shall be punishable by a sentence of not more than ninety (90) days of confinement to jail or by a fine of not more than \$500, or both, in the court's discretion.

Section 4. Repeal, Effective Date, Adoption.

(1) Repeal. All regulatory provisions contained in other City ordinances, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance, are hereby repealed.

(2) Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective on \_\_\_\_\_, 2008, following its publication in the *Rochester Eccentric* on \_\_\_\_\_, 2008.

(3) Adoption. This ordinance was adopted by the City Council of the City of Rochester Hills at a meeting thereof held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2008.

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Bryan K. Barnett, Mayor  
City of Rochester Hills

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was adopted by the City Council of the City of Rochester Hills at a meeting thereof on Wednesday, \_\_\_\_\_.

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Jane Leslie, Clerk  
City of Rochester Hills