

CHAPTER 3  
CITY OF MAPLE LAKE

**ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**3.01 ORGANIZATION**

For the proper protection of the lives and property of the City of Maple Lake, a Volunteer Fire Department, to be known as the Maple Lake Fire Department, is hereby organized.

**3.02 SIZE**

Such fire department shall consist of not more than thirty (30) members.

**3.03 OFFICERS**

1. The officers of said fire department shall be one chief, one assistant chief, one secretary, one treasurer, and three trustees. The chief and assistant chief shall automatically become the president and vice-president, respectively.
2. The fire department may from time to time create such other offices as may be necessary for the efficiency of the fire department.

**3.04 VACANCIES**

Aside from the regular members now in the fire department, as vacancies occur or as it may be deemed necessary, new or additional members may be accepted into the fire department. The election of new members, qualifications required, and other regulations as to new members, shall be prescribed in the constitution and by-laws of the fire department.

**3.05 MEETINGS**

The fire department shall meet at least once a month on the second Monday of each month or at such other date as the department's by-laws may designate. The fire department shall meet annually as designated in the by-laws of the department at which time the officers of the fire department shall be elected.

**3.06 CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The fire department shall make its own constitution, by-laws, rules and regulations of which a copy shall be filed with the city clerk.

**3.07 DUTIES OF THE FIRE CHIEF**

1. The chief, or in his/her absence, the assistant chief, shall exercise complete control of the fire department, have supervision over all the apparatus and other equipment, examine the same as often as necessary and see to it that it is properly kept, cared for and placed.

2. The chief shall order drills and practices as often as is advisable and see to it that all members of the fire department understand their work. The chief shall have full power and absolute control at all fires and his/her authority shall be absolute in every respect.
3. The chief, after each fire call, shall file a report with the city clerk of the fire calls answered by the fire department, within and without city limits, stating the approximate loss or damage.
4. The chief shall have the authority to make inspection of private premises for the purpose of enforcing any law, regulation, or ordinance for fire prevention.

**3.08 CITY ROLE**

1. The City Council shall, at all times, fully cooperate with the fire department and see to it that the members are properly equipped with such apparatus and appliances as may be necessary for the efficiency of the department in the protection of life and property of the citizens at large, and that the department has suitable quarters for its meetings.
2. All equipment and apparatus acquired by the fire department, either by purchase or contributions, shall become and remain the property of the City of Maple Lake.
3. The City Council shall determine the compensation of each member attending fire calls.

**3.09 FIRE CALLS, OUTSIDE CITY**

The department is hereby authorized to answer fire calls outside the city limits and when so doing shall be considered as on duty as firemen of the city. The city council shall prescribe charges to be made by the fire department for calls outside the city and must ratify any agreements made with other units of government for fire protection.

**3.10 FIREFIGHTERS RELIEF ASSOCIATION**

Permission is hereby given to the members of the fire department to form and organize a firefighters relief association under the laws of the State of Minnesota.

**3.11 COLLECTION OF CHARGES FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES**

The city will use the authority of State Statute 366.011 and 366.012 to collect fire and ambulance charges remaining unpaid 30 days after a notice of delinquency is sent to the recipient or the recipient's representative or estate.