

ORDINANCE NO. 2019- 2

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 321 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO CONTROL OF WEEDS, GRASSES AND BRUSH

The Common Council of the City of Richland Center, Wisconsin does ordain as follows:

SECTION 1:

Section 321.05 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Richland Center is amended to provide:

321.05 DUTY TO MOW GRASSES.

(1) The owner of any property within the City shall mow and keep mowed all grasses on his/her/its property to a height not exceeding six (6) inches above ground level and shall remove accumulated cut grass and weeds from the property and properly dispose of it.

(2) The owner of any property within the City which abuts a public street shall mow and keep mowed the strip of land between the property owner's lot line and the abutting curb(s) or, where there is no curb, the pavement edges of all public streets abutting the property to a height not exceeding six (6) inches above ground level.

SECTION 2:

Subsection 321.08 (1) (c) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Richland Center is amended to provide:

(c) If a violation is substantiated by the Weed Commissioner's inspection, the Weed Commissioner shall place or cause to be placed a door hangar on the apparent main entrance door of the property setting forth notice of the violation and shall send or cause to be sent a notice to the property owner by first class mail addressed to the person at the address of record shown in the records of the Richland County Treasurer for the mailing of real estate tax bills for the property or by personal delivery to any holder of title to the property, notifying the property owner of such violation and ordering immediate abatement of the violation.

SECTION 3:

Section 321.08 (2) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Richland Center is amended to provide:

(2) Powers of Weed Commissioner to Abate Certain Violations; Special Charge Against Property.

(a) If a violation is not abated within 48 hours after placement of a door hanger, the Weed Commissioner may proceed to abate the nuisance by causing City personnel to mow the offending grass on the property, to destroy noxious weeds on the property and/or to cut, remove brush and dispose of cut tree limbs or other cut organic materials on the property, and shall forthwith report to the City Clerk-Treasurer in writing all charges incurred therefor.

(b) There shall be imposed abatement charges in the amounts from time to time established by resolution of the City Council. Such abatement charges shall be a special charges against the property upon which the violation was abated.

(c) The Clerk shall then bill the landowner for the abatement charge imposed and if the charges are not paid by the landowner within 30 days after billing therefor is mailed, the special charge is delinquent and becomes a lien against the property against which it is imposed as of the date of delinquency. The delinquent special charge shall be included in the current or next tax roll for collection and settlement under chap. 74, Wis. Stats.

(d) All notifications to the landowner under this chapter and any billings herein provided for shall be made by personal delivery to at least one holder of title to the property or by mailing. Mailings provided for herein shall be mailed to the person at the address of record shown in the records of the Richland County Treasurer for the mailing of real estate tax bills for the property.

(e) Any mowing performed by or at the direction of the Weed Commissioner pursuant to the Weed Commissioner's powers under paragraph (2) above is not limited to a height of 6 inches, and the grasses may be mowed to as low as 2 inches above ground level.

(g) Abatement of a violation by the Weed Commissioner and imposition of a special charge against the property shall not be deemed to bar imposition of a forfeiture for the same violation.

SECTION 4:

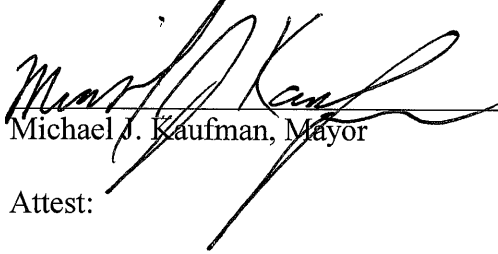
Section 321.08 (3) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Richland Center is amended by adding the following language:

A forfeiture, if imposed, shall be in addition to costs of abatement under par. 321.08 (2).

SECTION 5:

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication.

Enacted the 18th day of June, 2019



Michael J. Kaufman, Mayor

Attest:



Melinda D. Jones, City Clerk/Treasurer