

BOROUGH OF MONROEVILLE

ORDINANCE NO. 197

AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE DIVISION OF FIRE PREVENTION IN THE BOROUGH OF MONROEVILLE.

SECTION 1. Be it ordained and enacted by the Borough of Monroeville, in Council assembled, and it is hereby ordained and enacted by the authority of the same, that from and after the approval of this Ordinance there shall be and is hereby created a Division of Fire Prevention.

SECTION 2. The Division of Fire Prevention is hereby delegated to carry out the enforcement of all laws of the State of Pennsylvania and the Ordinances of the Borough of Monroeville bearing on Fire Prevention and covering the following in the manner and to the extent hereinafter set forth.

- a. To provide for certain inspections to insure against fire hazards.
- b. To provide and require that the owner or occupant of any building shall remove any combustible or explosive matter therein and correct inflammable conditions, upon the order of the Fire Chiefs, to safeguard life or property, and to provide that said Chiefs may close the building or premises pending such removal or correction, and if the owner or occupant fails to obey such order, may have the necessary work done at the expense of the Borough to be recovered by the Borough.
- c. To require the installation and maintenance, in such buildings as shall be designated, of standpipes, sprinkling systems, hose lines and other similar appliances.
- d. To require the installation and maintenance, in such buildings as shall be designated, of portable fire apparatus, such as axes, pike poles, hose and reels, ladders, chemical extinguishers, portable pumps and other similar appliances.
- e. To provide for the keeping of all halls, doors, stairways, passageways, aisles, fire escapes and exits in such repair, and so free from obstruction as to provide, in case of fire, full free, safe and adequate means of escape for those people who use frequent or are employed in such buildings.
- f. To provide, for the purpose of preventing fire, the spread of fire, fire waste, danger to life in case of fire, and loss of life or damage to the property from unsafe or improper construction or design of buildings, regulations and specifications for construction, equipment, arrangement, maintenance, alteration and inspection, heating, cooling and lighting, stairways, doorways, elevators, firetowers,

fire escapes, exits, aisles, passageways, floor levels, seats, fire alarms and all other means of providing safe escape in case of fire, of all buildings which may hereafter be constructed for use as stores, manufacturing establishments, churches, theatres, dance halls, lodging house, tenements, dwellings, stables, strage houses, office buildings, hospitals, asylums, hotels, colleges, schools, dry cleaning establishments, garages and all other buildings where a large number of people have homes, congregate or are employed.

g. To provide regulations and specifications for the construction and arrangements, maintenance, alteration and inspection of proper, adequate and safe means and appliances to prevent the spread of fire and to enable the occupants to escape safely in case of fire.

h. To provide for the preparation and distribution by the Division of Fire Prevention of rules and regulations to minimize the danger of fire and lessen fire waste, not inconsistent with the laws of the State of Pennsylvania and the Ordinances of the Borough of Monroeville.

SECTION 3. The Fire Chiefs or their designated assistants shall inspect as often as may be necessary, all specially hazardous manufacturing processes, storages and installations of acetylene or other gases, chemicals, oils, explosives and inflammable materials, all other interior fire alarms and automatic sprinkler systems, in such other hazards or appliances and shall make such report as may be necessary for the enforcement of the laws and ordinances governing the same and for the safeguarding of life and property from fire.

SECTION 4. It shall be the duty of the Fire Chiefs or their designated assistants to inspect as often as may be necessary all buildings, premises, and public thoroughfares, except the interiors of private dwellings, for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected any conditions liable to cause fire or any violation of the provision and intents of any ordinance of the Borough affecting the fire hazard.

Whenever the Fire Chiefs, or their assistants so designated as authorized by the Chiefs in writing, shall find in any building or upon any premises or other place, combustible or explosive matter, or dangerous accumulation of rubbish or unnecessary accumulation of waste paper, boxes, shavings or highly inflammable material especially liable to fire, and which is so situated as to endanger property or shall find obstructions to or on fire escapes, stairs, passageways, doors or windows, liable to interfere with the operations of a Monroeville Fire Company or the egress of occupants of said premises in case of fire, the chiefs shall order the manner of improvement to insure proper safety and shall be complied with by the owner or occupant of such premises or buildings, subject to appeal within three (3) days to the Burgess of the Borough of Monroeville, as provided in this ordinance.

Any owner or occupant failing to comply with such order within a reasonable period after the issuing of said order shall be liable for a penalty as herein after provided. Service of notice of such

Order may be made upon the occupant of the premises to whom it is directed either by delivering a copy of same to such occupant personally or by delivering the same to and leaving it with an adult person in charge of the premises, or in case of no such adult person is found upon the premises, by affixing a copy thereof in a conspicuous place on the door at the entrance of said premises. Whenever it may be necessary to serve such an order upon the owner or occupant of the premises such order may be served either by delivering to or leaving with said person a copy of said order; or if said owner is absent from the Borough of Monroeville and the premises should not be occupied, then service of such order may be made upon the owner by mailing such copy to the owner's last known post office address.

SECTION 5. The Fire Chief, upon the complaint of any person or whenever he shall deem it necessary, shall inspect or designate any of his assistants to inspect the building and premises, except the interiors of private dwellings within their jurisdiction.

SECTION 6. Whenever any of said officers shall find any building or other structure which for want of automatic or other fire alarm apparatus, or fire extinguishment equipment, or by reason of age or a dilapidated condition or from any other cause is especially liable to fire, and which is so situated as to endanger other property or the occupants thereof, and whenever such officer shall find in any building combustible or explosive matter or inflammable conditions dangerous to the safety of said building or occupants thereof, he or they shall order such dangerous condition to be removed or remedied and such order shall forthwith be complied with by the owner or occupant of said building. If such order is made by the Fire Chief, such owner or occupant may within three(3) days appeal to the Burgess of the Borough of Monroeville, who shall within three (3) days review such order and file his decision thereon, and unless by this authority the order is revoked, it shall remain in full force and be complied with within the time fixed in said order.

SECTION 7. The Fire Chiefs or their assistants, specially authorized thereto, may between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 9:00 P.M., enter any building or premises, excepting the interior of private dwellings, within his jurisdiction, for the purpose of making any inspection or investigation which under the provisions of this Ordinance may be necessary to be made.

SECTION 8. Upon receipt of a written request by the property owner, the Fire Chiefs may inspect private property and give a written report of their findings.

SECTION 9. The Fire Chiefs, shall, at the first regular meeting in February, August and December render to the Borough Council, a complete written report of their actions taken and contemplated.

SECTION 10. No person shall be permitted to make any inspections under this ordinance who has not filed his name with the Borough Manager and received from him an identification card authorizing him

as a proper person to make such inspections.

SECTION 11. Any person or persons, firms or corporation violating any of the provisions of this Ordinance or neglecting to comply with any order issued pursuant to any section hereof shall upon conviction thereof before any Justice of the Peace of the Borough of Monroeville, be fined in a sum not exceeding Twenty-five (\$25.00) Dollars for each offense, and in default thereof be committed to the Allegheny County Jail for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED THIS 10 DAY OF MAY, 1960.

BOROUGH OF MONROEVILLE

ATTEST:

s/ Arthur A. Curtis
Borough Manager

s/ Thomas Harter
President of Council

s/Anthony J. Martin
Burgess