

ORDINANCE NO. 2187

**ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 70, ARTICLE VII, SECTION 70-357 OF THE
NORTHPORT MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO WRECKER RATES AND
CHARGES**

WHEREAS, the City of Northport regulates the charges by wrecker services operating within the City of Northport on its wrecker rotation; and

WHEREAS, the City's approved charges need to be updated in the City code; and

WHEREAS, the City hereby sets the attached rates and charges as the current amounts for any wrecker service operator on the rotation log in the City of Northport.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF NORTHPORT, ALABAMA AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The City hereby amends Chapter 70, Article VII, Section 70-357 Rates and Charges of the Northport Municipal Code, as set forth in Exhibit "A" which is attached hereto and incorporated by reference as if fully set out verbatim.
2. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage and publication.


ORDAINED this the 15th day of May, 2023.

**CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF NORTHPORT**

BY: _____


Jeff Hogg, Its President

ATTEST:




Glenda D. Webb, City Administrator

APPROVED this the 15th day of May, 2023.


Dr. John Hinton, Mayor

I hereby certify that the above and foregoing Ordinance was published on May 24, 2023, in the Northport Gazette, a newspaper of general circulation published in the City of Northport.


Glenda D. Webb, City Administrator

1st Reading: May 1, 2023
Motion By: Washington
2nd Reading: May 15, 2023
Motion By: Washington
Second By: Wiggins
Publication: May 24, 2023

EXHIBIT "A"

Sec. 70-357. Rates and charges.

The maximum fees for wrecker services provided by any wrecker service operator on the rotation log in regard to services provided as a result of a dispatch shall not exceed the following amounts per wrecker, which include operator, unless otherwise indicated (see Notes):

- (1) Normal service—Two-axle vehicle (7,000 lbs. or less). \$200.00
- (2) Normal service—Two-axle vehicle (more than 7,000 lbs., less than 17,000 lbs.). \$250.00

Note: Normal service includes cleaning of ordinary debris from roadway, pickup and towing of vehicle to wrecker services storage yard or alternate destination, as long as alternate destination does not exceed ten (10) miles from the scene of the call, and disconnect. Fees for mileage in excess of ten (10) miles for alternate destinations are allowable and shall be reasonable and not in excess of those rates charged for similar services provided in response to requests initiated by any other public agency or private person.

- (2) Oil dry. \$25.00 per bag maximum
- (3) Excessive Clean Up Fee. \$75.00 maximum
 - a. A photo of the debris field must be taken and stored by the rotation wrecker company for 1 year.
- (4) Righting of two-axle vehicle under 10,000 lbs. \$90.00 maximum
- (4) Winching two-axle vehicle less than 10,000 lbs., per hour. \$90.00 maximum
- (5) Forklift services shall be at commercial rental rates plus ten percent per hour (not including operator).
- (6) No keys to vehicle. (Included in normal services.)
- (7) Vehicle storage rates for Two-axle vehicle 10,000 lbs. or less:
 - a. First 24 hours. No charge
 - b. Second 24 hours. \$40.00 maximum
 - c. Each day thereafter. \$40.00 maximum
- (8) After hours vehicle release \$75.00 maximum

This after hours release fee will not be charged for immediate release of a towed vehicle, whether or not such release is after hours.
- (9) Heavy Duty wrecker service charges shall be reasonable and not in excess of those rates charged for similar services provided in response to requests initiated by any other public agency or private person. The reasonableness of the fees charged will be determined in the following manner:
 - a. A wrecker company shall submit proposed fees annually for heavy duty rotation services to the chief's representative.
 - b. The chief's representative will determine the reasonableness of the fees based upon the average of the proposed fees submitted and a comparison of fees submitted by other wrecker companies in the area.
 - c. A copy of the approved fees shall be kept in the wrecker at all times. It shall be presented upon request to the person for whom the tow services were provided, their agent, or any city police officer at the scene.
 - d. A wrecker company shall submit proposed fees in writing to the chiefs' representative by October 1st of each year. The representative will complete a review of the fees for heavy duty rotation wrecker services to determine its validity and reasonableness. Validity will be based upon telephone quotes, posted rates, charges to retail customers, etc. Reasonableness will be

determined as compared to other rates. The company will be notified of its approved fees no later than December 31st to be effective January 1st of the following year.

- e. Failure to submit proposed fees annually will result in utilizing the last approved fees submitted.
- f. If fees are determined to be excessive or unreasonable, the company will be notified and allowed to resubmit fees within five (5) business days of notification. A company shall be allowed to resubmit fees once.

Notes:

- (1) The rates and charges as established herein do not relate to or regulate consensual wrecker services, being those situations where the vehicle's owner expressly requests towing or wrecker services by a specific towing company and enters a private contract with the towing or wrecker company for services.
- (2) There shall be no winching fee charged for normal loading of a vehicle onto a rollback.
- (3) The above rates shall be reviewed annually at a meeting to occur before November 30 each year.