

CHAPTER 96: ABANDONED AND JUNK VEHICLES

Section

- 96.01 Role of Town Marshal
- 96.02 Definitions
- 96.03 Abandonment
- 96.04 Financial responsibility
- 96.05 Procedures and notice requirements
- 96.06 Notice and disposal
- 96.07 Complaint of property owner
- 96.08 Exceptions
- 96.09 Towing charges
- 96.10 Towing contracts
- 96.11 Time

§ 96.01 ROLE OF TOWN MARSHAL.

The Bristol Police Department is designated and assigned as the public agency with local responsibility for the removal and storage of abandoned vehicles and vehicle parts within the corporate limits of the town, pursuant to I.C. 9-22-1 *et seq.*, as amended, and the Bristol Police Department is granted all powers reasonable and necessary for the performance of its responsibilities under this chapter. ('97 Code, § 6-28) (Ord. 6-10-82, passed 6-10-82)

§ 96.02 DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning. The definitions contained in I.C. 9-22-1 are adopted for other terms appearing in this chapter.

ABANDONED VEHICLE. This term includes the following:

- (1) A vehicle located on public property illegally;
- (2) A vehicle left on public property continuously without being moved for three days;

§ 96.05 PROCEDURES AND NOTICE REQUIREMENTS.

(A) An officer who finds a vehicle or parts believed to be abandoned shall make a reasonable effort to ascertain the owner or person who may be in control of the vehicle or parts and then shall attach in a prominent place on the vehicle or parts a notice tag containing the following information:

(1) The date, time, officer's name and the address and telephone number of the Bristol Police Department, the department to contact for information;

(2) That the vehicle or parts are considered abandoned;

(3) That the vehicle or parts will be removed after the expiration of 72 hours from the time of notice;

(4) That the owner will be held responsible for all costs incidental to the removal, storage and disposal, and if not paid, the owner's registration privileges will be suspended on that car; and

(5) That the owner may avoid costs by removal of the vehicle or parts within 72 hours.

(B) If the vehicle parts or the vehicle is not removed within 72 hours, the officer shall prepare a written abandoned vehicle report of the vehicle or parts, including information on the condition, missing parts and other facts that might substantiate that the market value is less than \$100. Photographs shall be taken to describe the condition of the vehicle or parts.

(1) If, in the opinion of the officer, the market value of the abandoned vehicle or parts is less than \$100, the officer may immediately dispose of the vehicle to an automobile scrapyards or may require the vehicle or parts to be towed to a storage area. A copy of the abandoned vehicle report and photographs relating to the abandoned vehicle shall be forwarded to the Bureau. The Department shall retain the original records and photographs for at least two years.

(2) If, in the opinion of the officer, the market value of the abandoned vehicle or parts is \$100 or more, the officer shall require the vehicle or parts to be towed to a storage area.
(*97 Code, § 6-32) (Ord. 6-10-82, passed 6-10-82)

§ 96.06 NOTICE AND DISPOSAL.

Within 72 hours after removal of an abandoned vehicle to a storage area under § 96.05, the Department shall prepare and forward to the Bureau an abandoned vehicle report containing a description of the vehicle, including the make, model, readily available vehicle identification number and the number of the license plat and request that the Bureau advise the Department of the name and most recent mailing address of the owner and any lienholder. Fifteen days after the Bureau mails its response to the

§ 96.10 TOWING CONTRACTS.

The Town Council is authorized to contract with any towing service or storage facility on an annual basis to provide towing and/or storage services for the town.
(‘97 Code, § 6-37) (Ord. 6-10-82, passed 6-10-82)

§ 96.11 TIME.

In computing any period of time prescribed in this chapter, the day of the act, event or tagging or mailing from which the designated period of time begins to run shall not be included. Such time shall begin to run on the next succeeding day and shall conclude on midnight of the last day of the period that is not a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday.
(‘97 Code, § 6-38) (Ord. 6-10-82, passed 6-10-82)