

ORDINANCE 2284

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING CHAPTER 52, FIRE DEPARTMENT, OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD

BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of South Plainfield, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that Chapter 52, Fire Department, of the Code of the Borough of South Plainfield be amended to add Article IV, Fees and Permits Benefits, as follows:

52-30 - PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish an incentive program to increase enrollment in the South Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department and to reward such volunteers for their tireless efforts and many hours spent to preserve and protect the health, safety, property and welfare of the residents of the Borough of South Plainfield, 24 hours per day, 365 days per year, without compensation.

52-31 - DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Ordinance, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings:

A. "Member in Good Standing" means any person who has been certified in writing by the Fire Chief of the Volunteer Fire Department within the Borough of South Plainfield to have served at least one year continuous volunteer service in the Department and to possess the necessary certification(s), license(s) and/or training required by the Department.

B. "Volunteer" means any individual contributing services to the Volunteer Fire Department without remuneration or without a formal agreement or contract for hire.

C. "Volunteer Service" means the required percentage of activity or participation to qualify as a bona fide member of the Volunteer Fire Department as established by the Fire Chief.

52-32 - QUALIFICATION FOR BENEFITS.

A. The provisions of this Ordinance shall be limited solely to the residents of the Borough of South Plainfield who are current and active volunteers of the Volunteer Fire Department within the Borough of South Plainfield and who are certified by the Fire Chief of the Volunteer Fire Department as "members in good standing" of said organization.

B. Such certification shall be filed annually by the Fire Chief, not later than January 15, with the Borough Clerk. A new certification must be filed each year and the certification from the preceding year shall be null and void.

52-33 - BENEFITS.

Every member in good standing of a Volunteer Fire Department shall be entitled to the following benefits from the Borough:

A. Exemption from payment of any Borough of South Plainfield fees for Borough licenses or permits, to a maximum of \$300.00 per year, provided the fee is for a license or permit for the personal benefit of such member in good standing. Such exemption may not be utilized by any individual, including

family members, of such member in good standing. This section shall not, however, be construed to apply to fees associated with the South Plainfield Community Pool or South Plainfield Recreation Department. Where fees include monies payable to the state or county, only the municipal portion of said fees may be exempted.

52-34 - PROCEDURE FOR EXEMPTION; COUPON BOOKS.

A. Coupon Books. Within 20 days after January 15, the Borough Clerk shall provide a book of coupons to the member in good standing which shall be imprinted with a serial number. The coupons may be presented, alone or in combination, by the member in good standing in order to exempt he member from any of the fees specified in this Ordinance in the following manner:

1. At the time that the member seeks the exemption from fees, he or she shall present the coupon book to the appropriate authorized Borough official or representative, who shall remove the requested coupon(s);

2. The Borough official or representative shall provide a receipt to the member for the amount of the exemption and thereafter forward the used coupon(s) to the Clerk's office for filing with a notation as to the date of use and exemption provided;

3. Coupon books are not transferrable and coupons may not be removed from the book by anyone other than an authorized Borough official or representative. Coupons otherwise removed from the book shall be deemed null and void;

4. Coupon books shall expire on December 31 of the year of issuance, and any coupons not used as of that date shall be deemed null and void.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with New Jersey law.