

Stockton Springs Parking Ordinance

Authority: This Parking Ordinance (hereinafter "the Ordinance") is adopted pursuant to 30-A M.R.S.A. §3009.

Purpose: This Ordinance is designed to protect public health and welfare by regulating the parking of motor vehicles on certain public ways in the Town of Stockton Springs. Unrestricted parking on public ways creates traffic hazards and is dangerous to pedestrians and motorists, and it is the purpose of this Ordinance to reduce this danger.

Effective Date: This Ordinance shall become effective when adopted by the Select Board.

Definitions: For purposes of this Ordinance, the terms listed below are defined as follows; any other term used in this Ordinance shall have its common, ordinary meaning unless otherwise indicated.

"Public Way" means any town way or public easement as defined in 23 M.R.S.A. § 3021 and any portion in of any State or State-aid highway located within the town. This term includes ways commonly designated as streets, lanes, roads, and avenues, and includes paved or unpaved shoulders of such ways.

"Motor Vehicle" is any vehicle defined in 29 M.R.S.A. § 1.

General Rules: No vehicle may be parked in any of the following locations, except as provided in "Exceptions" below:

1. On a sidewalk
2. In front of a public or private way or private driveway
3. In the traveled way of a public road, street, or intersection, or on the side of a road within 15 feet of an intersection
4. Within 8 feet of any fire hydrant
5. On a crosswalk
6. Within 30 feet of a fire station or ambulance station entrance ramp, or on the side of the street opposite such entrance ramp.
7. On the side or a road or street facing toward the oncoming traffic
8. Within 15 feet of any railroad grade crossing
9. On the roadway side of any other parked vehicle, commonly referred to as double parking
10. Against the flow of traffic

Exceptions: This Ordinance does not apply to motor vehicles that are parked in prohibited areas for the following reasons:

1. Mechanical problems or breakdown
2. Emergency situations
3. Maintenance, construction, repair or installation of utilities on the public way by any State or municipal agency or utility company
4. At the direction of a law enforcement officer.

Regulated Areas: When signs are erected giving notice thereof, no person shall park any motor vehicle during the prohibited times posted on the signs on any public way or specified portions thereof, or in any parking space in a public parking lot or area.

Handicapped Parking: No vehicle shall park in a designated handicapped parking space unless it displays the appropriate handicapped license plates or placards thereon.

Penalties: Any person found in violation of this Ordinance by a Court of competent jurisdiction shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$100.00 or less than \$25.00, plus reasonable attorney's fees and court costs;

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proceeds of said fines, fees, and court costs accrue to the municipality.

Persons charged with violating this Ordinance may waive court action by payment of a fee of \$15.00 plus the amount of the fine within 7 days after receiving notice of the violation. Any such waiver and payment of fee and fine shall be processed through the Town Clerk.

Enforcement: This Ordinance shall be enforced by the Stockton Springs Police Department, Waldo County Sheriff's Office, or Maine State Police. Violation of this Ordinance shall be a traffic infraction and shall be prosecuted, if necessary, in Waldo County District Court.

Severability: In the event that any portion of this Ordinance is found by a Court to be invalid, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

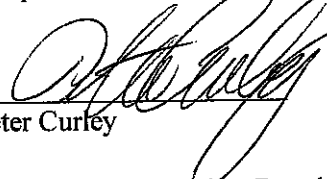
Towing: Any motor vehicle parked upon a public way of the Town in a place, manner, or for a length of time prohibited by this Ordinance, during a winter storm or in any way that obstructs snow removal, or during any parking ban declared by the Municipal Officers/Town Manager/Road Commissioner/Supervisory Law Enforcement Officer (provided notice of such ban has been given at least 4 hours prior to the ban to the public by notification to a representative of a radio station or television station serving the area), is hereby declared to be an obstruction in the public way and a menace to the safety of the traveling public. Any motor vehicle parked which constitutes an obstruction under this Section of this Ordinance may, at the request and under the direction of the Municipal Officers/Town Manager/Road Commissioner/Supervisory Law Enforcement Officer, be towed to a suitable garage or storage space and impounded thereon until all reasonable and customary towing and storage fees are paid.

When any vehicle is towed pursuant to this Ordinance, the following procedure shall be followed:

1. Notice shall be sent to the registered owner of the vehicle by regular 1st-class mail, postage pre-paid, within 24 hours following the tow. The Notice will state that the owner may request a meeting with the Town Manager to discuss the tow.
2. The Notice shall contain the following information: registration number and brief description of the vehicle; name and address of person or company who performed the tow; location where the vehicle is stored; the provisions of the Ordinance which were violated and led to the tow; and the towing fee and any storage fee.

Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD): The Federal MUTCD, which serves as the national standard for all traffic control on all public ways in the United States, is hereby adopted by reference.

Adopted November 10, 2016



Peter Curfey

Lesley Cosmano



Sara Skolfield

Stockton Springs Select Board Members