

ORDINANCE NO. 88

AN ORDINANCE RESCINDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 46  
AND RECREATING AND PROVIDING FOR THE MANAGEMENT  
OF THE MEXICO BEACH VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT.

WHEREAS, the Town Council is of the opinion that it is necessary for the protection and preservation of the peace, safety, health and property of the town and its inhabitants, now, therefore, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE TOWN OF MEXICO BEACH:

Section 1. ORGANIZATION. There is hereby organized, created and established within the town, a volunteer fire department to be known as the Mexico Beach Volunteer Fire Department. The supervision, control, compensation, selection, qualification, duties, appointment and enrollment of the members thereof shall be as provided in this ordinance.

Section 2. RESPONSIBILITY & CONTROL. The fire chief of the town shall have control of all volunteer firemen in so far as such control shall be necessary to assure the proper functioning and carrying out the purpose of the volunteer fire department, subject, however, to the supervision of the fire commissioner, and subject to the provisions of this ordinance or the Charter of the Town.

Section 3. RULES & BY-LAWS. The volunteer firemen may make and promulgate their own rules and by-laws providing for the regulation and government of the volunteer fire department. Provided, however, that such rules and by-laws shall not be in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance and of the Charter of the Town. Such rules and by-laws shall be reviewed and approved or disapproved by the Town Council.

Section 4. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS. At the first regular meeting of the month of the Town Council the fire chief will submit in writing a roster containing the name of each person who has, during the preceding month, been a member of the volunteer fire department or has made application for membership therein. If there appears upon the roster of members the name of any person not previously duly appointed and enrolled as a member of the volunteer fire department, the Town Council shall approve or disapprove such new member, by motion, and such approval or disapproval shall be entered in the minutes of the meeting, at which time such persons shall be deemed to have been duly appointed and enrolled or rejected as a member.

Section 5. QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS. Any person may be eligible for membership in the volunteer fire department who shall be eighteen (18) years of age or over and in good physical health, the volunteer fire department may, by its own rules and by-laws, establish any other qualifications for membership as to them may be reasonable and necessary.

Section 6. NUMBER OF MEMBERS. The membership of the volunteer fire department shall not exceed thirty (30) members, and shall contain in addition to the fire chief at least two (2) assistance fire chiefs; one (1) administrative and one (1) operational, elected by the volunteer fire department members as provided in its rules and by-laws.

Section 7. WAGES-COMPENSATION. Wages or compensation for the members of the volunteer fire department shall be paid by the Town at the time, and computed in the manner following: A list of members attending fires, regularly scheduled drills or meetings of the volunteer fire department shall be submitted to the Town Council at a regular meeting of each month, certified by the fire chief or administrative assistant chief. The Town Clerk shall be directed to pay each member a sum of two dollars (\$2.00) for one scheduled drill or meeting per month and two dollars (\$2.00) for each and every fire attended by such member. This does not preclude additional non-payment drills or meetings to be scheduled during this period. A member may direct payment to the volunteer fire department fund. Disbursement of such monies from the volunteer fire department fund shall be as provided in the rules and by-laws of the volunteer fire department.

Section 8. MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION. Membership and participation by the members of the volunteer fire department, as well as attendance at fires, regularly scheduled drills or meetings shall be entirely on a volunteer basis, and no person, because of such membership, shall be compelled to attend any specific number of fires, drills or meetings. The volunteer fire department may, by the provisions of its rules and by-laws, provide for the dismissal or disenrollment of any member of the volunteer fire department who shall appear to be avoiding or shirking his duty with regard to attendance at fires, drills and/or meetings without good cause. The Town Council may also, for good cause shown, dismiss or disenroll any member of the volunteer fire department.

Section 9. DRILLS AND MEETINGS. There shall be a minimum of one (1) drill or meeting of the volunteer fire department held in each month. Time, date and place of such drill or meeting to be provided for in the rules and by-laws of the volunteer fire department.

Section 10. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall take effect as provided by law.

INTRODUCED at a Regular Meeting of the Town Council on this 13th day of February, 1979, and ADOPTED by the Town Council on this 27th day of February, 1979.

TOWN OF MEXICO BEACH, FLORIDA

*M. L. (Bob) Hale*

M. L. (Bob) Hale  
Mayor-Councilman

ATTEST:

*Patricia L. Hutchinson*  
Town Clerk

SEAL