ORDINANCE NO. 106
HEALTH AND SAFETY; NUISANCES

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GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 106.01 ASSESSABLE CURRENT SERVICES.

(A) *Definition*. For the purpose of this section, the following definition shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

CURRENT SERVICE. Shall mean one or more of the following: snow, ice, or rubbish removal from sidewalks; removal or elimination of public health or safety hazards from private property, excluding any hazardous building included in M.S. § 463.15 through 463.26 as they may amended from time to time; street sprinkling, street flushing, light street oiling, or other dust treatment of streets; trimming and care of trees and removal of unsound and insect-infected trees from the public streets or private property; and the operation of a street lighting system.

(B) *Snow, ice, dirt and rubbish.*

(1) *Duty of owners and occupants.* The owner and the occupant of any property adjacent to a public sidewalk shall use diligence to keep the walk safe for pedestrians. No owner or occupant shall allow snow, ice, dirt or rubbish to remain on the walk longer than 24 hours after its deposit thereon. Failure to comply with this section shall constitute a violation.

(2) *Removal by city*. The City Clerk or other person designated by the City Council may cause removal from all public sidewalks all snow, ice, dirt and rubbish as

soon as possible beginning 24 hours after any matter has been deposited thereon or after the snow has ceased to fall. The City Clerk or other designated person shall keep a record showing the cost of removal adjacent to each separate lot and parcel.

(C) *Public health and safety hazards*. When the city removes or eliminates public health or safety hazards from private property under the following provisions of this chapter, the administrative officer responsible for doing the work shall keep a record of the cost of the removal or elimination against each parcel of property affected and annually deliver that information to the City Clerk.

(D) *Personal liability*. The owner of property on which or adjacent to which a current service has been performed shall be personally liable for the cost of the service. As soon as the service has been completed and the cost determined, the City Clerk, or other designated official, shall prepare a bill and mail it to the owner and thereupon the amount shall be immediately due and payable at the office of the City Clerk.

(E) *Damage to public property*. Any person driving any vehicle, equipment, object or contrivance upon any street, road, highway or structure shall be liable for all damages which the surface or structure thereof may sustain as a result of any illegal operation, or driving or moving of the vehicle, equipment or object or contrivance; or as a result of operating, driving or moving any vehicle, equipment, object or contrivance weighing in excess of the maximum weight permitted by statute or this code. When the driver is not the owner of the vehicle, equipment, object or contrivance, but is operating, driving or moving it with the express or implied permission of the owner, then the owner and the driver shall be jointly and severally liable for any such damage. Any person who willfully acts or fails to exercise due care and by that act damages any public property shall be liable for the amount thereof, which amount shall be collectable by action or as a lien under M.S. § 514.67, as it may be amended from time to time.

(F) *Assessment.* On or before September 1 of each year, the City Clerk shall list the total unpaid charges for each type of current service and charges under this section against each separate lot or parcel to which they are attributable under this section. The City Council may then spread the charges against property benefited as a special assessment under the authority of M.S. § 429.101 as it may be amended from time to time and other pertinent statutes for certification to the County Auditor and collection along with current taxes the following year or in annual installments, not exceeding ten, as the City Council may determine in each case.

§ 106.02 TREE DISEASES.

(A) *Trees constituting nuisance declared*. The following are public nuisances whenever they may be found within the city:

(1) Any living or standing elm tree or part thereof infected to any degree with the Dutch Elm disease fungus *Ceratocystis Ulmi (Buisman*) Moreau or which harbors any of the elm bark beetles *Scolytus Multistriatus (Eichh.) or Hylungopinus Rufipes (Marsh*);

(2) Any dead elm tree or part thereof, including branches, stumps, firewood or other elm material from which the bark has not been removed and burned or sprayed with an effective elm bark beetle insecticide;

(3) Any living or standing oak tree or part thereof infected to any degree with the Oak Wilt fungus *Ceratocystis fagacearum;*

(4) Any dead oak tree or part thereof which in the opinion of the designated officer constitutes a hazard, including but not limited to logs, branches, stumps, roots, firewood or other oak material which has not been stripped of its bark and burned or sprayed with an effective fungicide;

(5) Any other shade tree with an epidemic disease.

(B) *Abatement of nuisance.* It is unlawful for any person to permit any public nuisance as defined in division (A) of this section to remain on any premises the person owns or controls within the city.

(C) *Written Notice.* Written notice of violation shall be mailed to the owner of record or occupant of the premises or they may be notified in person by a designated representative of the city.

(D) *Procedure.* Whenever a representative of the city determines that a public nuisance is being maintained or exists on the premises in the city, that representative shall notify in writing the owner of record or occupant of the premises of such fact and order that the nuisance be terminated or abated. The notice of violation shall specify the steps to be taken to abate the nuisance and the time within which the nuisance is to be abated. If the notice of violation is not complied with within the time specified, a peace officer may decide to issue a citation to the owner of the property for violating the terms and conditions of this ordinance.

(E) *Immediate abatement.* Nothing in this section shall prevent the city, without notice or other process, from immediately abating any condition which poses an imminent and serious hazard to human life or safety.

(F) *Record of costs.* The City Clerk shall keep a record of the costs of abatement done under this section for all work done for which assessments are to be made, stating and certifying the description of the land, lots, parcels involved, and the amount chargeable to each.

(G) *Unpaid charges.* On or before September 1 of each year, the City Clerk shall list the total unpaid charges for each abatement against each separate lot or parcel to which they are attributable under this section. The City Council may then spread the charges or any portion thereof against the property involved as a special assessment as authorized by M.S. § 429.101 as it may be amended from time to time and other pertinent statutes for

certification to the County Auditor and collection the following year along with the current taxes.

NUISANCES

§ 106.03 PUBLIC NUISANCE.

Whoever by his or her act or failure to perform a legal duty intentionally does any of the following is guilty of maintaining a public nuisance, which is a misdemeanor:

(A) Maintains or permits a condition which unreasonably annoys, injures or endangers the safety, health, morals, comfort or repose of any considerable number of members of the public;

(B) Interferes with, obstructs or renders dangerous for passage any public highway or right-of-way, or waters used by the public; or

C) Is guilty of any other act or omission declared by law to be a public nuisance and for which no sentence is specifically provided.

§ 106.04 PUBLIC NUISANCES AFFECTING HEALTH.

The following are hereby declared to be nuisances affecting health:

(A) Exposed accumulation of decayed or unwholesome food or vegetable matter;

(B) All diseased animals running at large;

(C) All ponds or pools of stagnant water;

(D) Carcasses of animals not buried or destroyed within 24 hours after death;

(E) Accumulations of manure, refuse or other debris;

(F) Privy vaults and garbage cans which are not rodent-free or fly-tight or which are so maintained as to constitute a health hazard or to emit foul and disagreeable odors;

(G) The pollution of any public well or cistern, stream or lake, canal or body of water by sewage, industrial waste or other substances;

(H) All noxious weeds and other rank growths of vegetation upon public or private property;

(I) Dense smoke, noxious fumes, gas and soot, or cinders, in unreasonable quantities;

(J) All public exposure of people having a contagious disease; and

(K) Any offensive trade or business as defined by statute not operating under local license.

§ 106.05 PUBLIC NUISANCES AFFECTING MORALS AND DECENCY.

The following are hereby declared to be nuisances affecting public morals and decency:

(A) All gambling devices, slot machines and punch boards, except as otherwise authorized by federal, state or local law;

(B) Betting, bookmaking and all apparatus used in those occupations;

(C) All houses kept for the purpose of prostitution or promiscuous sexual intercourse, gambling houses, houses of ill fame and bawdy houses;

(D) All places where intoxicating liquor is manufactured or disposed of in violation of law or where, in violation of law, people are permitted to resort for the purpose of drinking intoxicating liquor, or where intoxicating liquor is kept for sale or other disposition in violation of law, and all liquor and other property used for maintaining that place;

(E) Any vehicle used for the unlawful transportation of intoxicating liquor, or for promiscuous sexual intercourse, or any other immoral or illegal purpose.

§ 106.06 PUBLIC NUISANCES AFFECTING PEACE AND SAFETY.

The following are declared to be nuisances affecting public peace and safety:

(A) All snow and ice not removed from public sidewalks 24 hours after the snow or other precipitation causing the condition has ceased to fall;

B) All trees, hedges, billboards or other obstructions which prevent people from having a clear view of all traffic approaching an intersection;

(C) All wires and limbs of trees which are so close to the surface of a sidewalk or street as to constitute a danger to pedestrians or vehicles;

(D) All obnoxious noises in violation of Minn. Rules Ch. 7030, as they may be amended from time to time which are hereby incorporated by reference into this ordinance.

(E) The discharging of the exhaust or permitting the discharging of the exhaust of any stationary internal combustion engine, motor boat, motor vehicle, motorcycle, all terrain vehicle, snowmobile or any recreational device except through a muffler or other

device that effectively prevents loud or explosive noises there from and complies with all applicable state laws and regulations.

(F) The using or operation or permitting the using or operation of any radio receiving set, musical instrument, phonograph, paging system, machine or other device for producing or reproduction of sound in a distinctly and loudly audible manner so as to disturb the peace, quiet and comfort of any person nearby. Operation of any device referred to above between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. in a manner so as to be plainly audible at the property line of the structure or building in which it is located, or at a distance of 50 feet if the source is located outside a structure or building shall be prima facie evidence of violation of this section.

(G) The participation in a party or gathering of people giving rise to noise which disturbs the peace, quiet or repose of the occupants of adjoining or other property.

(H) Obstructions and excavations affecting the ordinary public use of streets, alleys, sidewalks or public grounds except under conditions as are permitted by this code or other applicable law;

(I) Radio aerials or television antennae erected or maintained in a dangerous manner;

(J) Any use of property abutting on a public street or sidewalk or any use of a public street or sidewalk which causes large crowds of people to gather, obstructing traffic and the free use of the street or sidewalk;

(K) All hanging signs, awnings and other similar structures over streets and sidewalks, so situated so as to endanger public safety, or not constructed and maintained as provided by ordinance;

(L) The allowing of rain water, ice or snow to fall from any building or structure upon any street or sidewalk or to flow across any sidewalk;

(M) Any barbed wire fence less than six feet above the ground and within three feet of a public sidewalk or way;

(N) All dangerous, unguarded machinery in any public place, or so situated or operated on private property as to attract the public;

(O) Waste water cast upon or permitted to flow upon streets or other public properties;

(P) Accumulations in the open of discarded or disused machinery, household appliances, automobile bodies or other material in a manner conducive to the harboring of rats, mice, snakes or vermin, or the rank growth of vegetation among the items so accumulated, or in a manner creating fire, health or safety hazards from accumulation or so that the accumulations are unsightly and visible from neighboring properties;

(Q) Any well, hole or similar excavation which is left uncovered or in another condition as to constitute a hazard to any child or other person coming on the premises where it is located;

(R) Obstruction to the free flow of water in a natural waterway or a public street drain, gutter or ditch with trash of other materials;

(S) The placing or throwing on any street, sidewalk or other public property of any glass, tacks, nails, bottles or other substance which may injure any person or animal or damage any pneumatic tire when passing over the substance;

(T) The depositing of garbage or refuse on a public right-of-way or on adjacent private property;

(U) All other conditions or things which are likely to cause injury to the person or property of anyone.

(V) Any dead trees, shrubs, tree stumps or brush piles that may foster disease or parasites or that are considered unsightly and causes the property they are on not to conform to the standards of the neighborhood.

§ 106.07 DUTIES OF CITY OFFICERS.

The Police Department or Sheriff, if the city has at the time no Police Department, shall enforce the provisions relating to nuisances. Any peace officer shall have the power to inspect private premises and take all reasonable precautions to prevent the commission and maintenance of public nuisances.

§ 106.08 ABATEMENT.

(A) Notice. Written notice of violation shall be mailed by a peace officer to the owner of record or occupant of the premises or they may be notified in person by a designated representative of the city.

(B) Procedure. Whenever a peace officer determines that a public nuisance is being maintained or exists on the premises in the city, the officer shall notify in writing the owner of record or occupant of the premises of such fact and order that the nuisance be terminated or abated. The notice of violation shall specify the steps to be taken to abate the nuisance and the time within which the nuisance is to be abated. If the notice of violation is not complied with within the time specified, the officer may decide to issue a citation to the owner of the property for violating the terms and conditions of this ordinance.

(C) Immediate abatement. Nothing in this section shall prevent the city, without notice or other process, from immediately abating any condition which poses an imminent and serious hazard to human life or safety.

§ 106.09 RECOVERY OF COST.

(A) Personal liability. The owner of premises on which a nuisance has been abated by the city shall be personally liable for the cost to the city of the abatement, including administrative costs. As soon as the work has been completed and the cost determined, the City Clerk or other official shall prepare a bill for the cost and mail it to the owner. There upon the amount shall be immediately due and payable at the office of the City Clerk.

(B) Assessment. If the nuisance is abated by the City and the bill for such services has not been paid by such time, the City Clerk shall, on or before September 1 next following abatement of the nuisance, list the total unpaid charges along with all other the charges as well as other charges for current services to be assessed under M.S § 429.101 against each separate lot or parcel to which the charges are attributable. The City Council may then spread the charges against the property under that statute and other pertinent statutes for certification to the County Auditor and collection along with current taxes the following year or in annual installments, not exceeding ten, as the City Council may determine in each case.

§ 106.10 PENALTIES.

(A) Any person, firm, or corporation who violates any provision of this ordinance shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor. Each day that the violation continues to exist may be a separate offense.

(B) The failure of any officer or employee of the city to perform any official duty imposed by this ordinance shall not subject the officer or employee to the penalty imposed for the violation.

§ 106.11 OTHER.

(A) If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

(B) All ordinances heretofore in force and effect and inconsistent with the provisions hereof are hereby repealed to the extent that they are altered by this ordinance.

(C) This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption and publication.

Randy Clarksean
Mayor
September 9, 2004

ATTEST:

Jodi Ericksrud
City Clerk
September 9, 2004