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CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

ORDINANCE NO. 2308

AN ORDINANCE amending Section 1 of Ordinance 1741 as amended by Ordinance 2027 and Ordinance 2072, and Chapter 5.40 of the Bellevue City Code, changing the towing and impound rates, changing the requirements for a "Class A" rating, listing the rates for storage of impounded vehicles and listing the rates for impounding of motorcycles.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Ordinance 1741 as amended by Ordinance 2027 and Ordinance 2072, and Chapter 5.40 of the Bellevue City Code are hereby amended by amending Sections 5.40.150, 5.40.160 and 5.40.170 which sections shall read as follows:

5.40.150 Class A Rating - Additional requirements and provisions.

In order to qualify for a Class A rating, a towing business licensee must comply with or satisfy the following additional requirements:

- A. **Equipment.** In addition to meeting the minimum equipment requirements provided in Section 5.40.060, each tow truck or Class A licensee shall be equipped with dual tires, or have a comparable capacity single tire (balloon type), dual booms, dual winches with at least a six-ton capacity (manufacturer's rating). Winches shall be of a type that may be operated independently or jointly, and each shall contain a minimum of one hundred feet of three-eighths inch continuous length cable. When one boom is used for lifting the towed vehicle, the unused boom shall be secured to prevent movement while the tow truck is in motion. Class A tow trucks shall also carry flags and flares, a hydraulic jack and wheel chocks.
- B. **Hours of Service.** A Class A licensee shall maintain sufficient personnel and equipment to provide service to the public on a twenty-four hour basis, and shall maintain:
 1. Suitable, single-party telephone service;
 2. Radio equipment installed at the dispatching point, and in each of the vehicles, and maintained in good working order at all times.

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- C. Number of Tow Trucks. A Class A licensee shall have a minimum of three tow trucks. Licensee's name shall be painted on the vehicle. No tow truck shall employ a color scheme or markings deceptively similar to the color scheme or markings used by any other tow truck operator in the City.
- D. Special Emergency Equipment. Each Class A tow truck shall carry two pinch bars which shall be four feet and six feet in length, and two snatch blocks or the equivalent, of sufficient strength to carry any strain capable of being applied by the equipment, a portable dolly for hauling vehicles that are not towable.
- E. Posting and Filing of Rates. All Class A licensees shall file with the City Clerk, and prominently display on a sign on the premises of licensee's place of business a schedule of rates listing the towing and/or storage rates as currently filed with the City Clerk. Fees for impounded vehicles shall be posted in accordance with the amounts set forth in Section 5.40.160 and shall include a notice that such rates do not include bail costs for traffic violations. Nothing in this section shall be construed to preclude reasonable service charges in special cases, not to exceed the following:
1. Use of dollies: \$18.00 per use
 2. Recovery over banks: \$32.50 per hour; \$16.50 minimum
 3. Submerged vehicles: \$32.50 per hour; \$16.50 minimum
 4. Outside storage: \$4.00 per day
 5. Inside storage: \$5.00 per day
- In computing rates to be charged, no more than one-half hour shall be allowed for total travel time within the corporate limits of the City.
- F. Abandoned Vehicles - Surety Bond. In accordance with RCW Chapter 46.52, relating to the disposing of abandoned vehicles, a Class A licensee shall maintain a three thousand dollar surety bond and shall register with the Department of Motor Vehicles of the state as provided in RCW 46.52.108. Licensee shall notify the City Clerk of any lapse of said surety bond, which lapse shall be grounds for disqualification as a Class A licensee.
- G. A Class A licensee's storage yard and place of business must be within the corporate limits of the City.

5.40.160 Impound of vehicles.

When a vehicle is impounded by the police, it shall be the responsibility of the police to call a towing business having a Class A rating which has indicated in writing to the chief of police its desire to be placed on the qualified list of Class A licensees eligible to impound vehicles, on a rotation basis. Except in the special cases set forth in Section 5.40.150E, the maximum fee which may be charged for such impounds shall not exceed a total fee of eighteen dollars (\$18.00) plus tax for calls placed by the police between the hours of eight a.m. and eight p.m., and shall not exceed a total fee of twenty-two dollars and fifty cents (\$22.50) plus tax for calls placed by the police between the hours of eight p.m. and eight a.m., and said fee shall include the first twelve hours of storage and travel time. In the special cases set forth in Section 5.40.150E, the special hourly fees authorized by said subsection shall be charged in addition to the set impound fee. Motorcycles shall be impounded at the same rate as motor vehicles. Impound fees for vehicles in excess of ten thousand pounds gross vehicle weight shall be based on the hours rate currently on file with the City, pursuant to Section 5.40.150E.

5.40.170 Release of impounded or disabled vehicles.

When a Class A licensee is requested to release a vehicle or its contents during nonbusiness hours between the hours of eight p.m. and eight a.m., licensee is permitted to make an additional charge of six dollars (\$6.00) plus tax. Sundays and legal holidays shall be termed nonbusiness hours. No vehicle which police have ordered held for evidence shall be released without a written order from

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the police having jurisdiction.

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty (30) days after enactment by the Council.


PASSED by the City Council this 19 day of April, 1976,
and signed in authentication of its passage this 19 day of
April, 1976.

(SEAL)



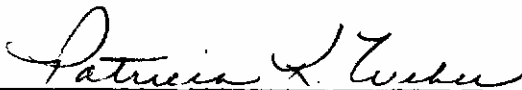
M. F. Vanik, Mayor

Approved as to form:



Lee Kraft, City Attorney

Attest:



Patricia K. Weber, City Clerk

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