

ORDINANCE NO. 1073

ORDINANCE ADDING TITLE 9, "POLICE REGULATIONS", CHAPTER 8, "PUBLIC CAMPING", THE VILLAGE CODE OF ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF STILLMAN VALLEY ILLINOIS

WHEREAS, the Illinois Municipal Code vests each municipality with police powers to protect the health, safety and well-being of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the corporate authorities the Village of Stillman Valley have determined that public camping on public property is contrary to the best interests of the public at large, the use of public property, and the health and well-being of those camping in public and the residents in general.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Village President and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Stillman Valley, Illinois:

Section 1: Chapter 8, "Public Camping", is hereby added to Title 9, "Police Regulations", and shall read as follows:

Sec. 9-8-1. - Definitions:

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings described to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

The term "bedding" shall mean a sleeping bag, or other material, used for bedding purposes.

The term "campsite" shall mean any physical space that is not within an established structure, where any bedding or stove or fire is placed, established or maintained for the purposes of maintaining a temporary place to live, whether or not such place incorporates the use of any tent, lean-to, shack or other structure or any vehicle or part thereof.

The term "exempt personal property" shall mean items which would otherwise constitute personal property under the terms of this Ordinance, but which:

- (a) have no apparent utility or monetary value;
- (b) personal property which is unsanitary to store or otherwise maintain;
- (c) any weapon possessed illegally;
- (d) drug paraphernalia;
- (e) items appearing to be stolen or otherwise appearing to be evidence of a crime;
- (f) items which the person cannot demonstrate the requisite lawful authority to possess;
- (g) any items of food which can reasonably be expected to spoil or otherwise perish within the next 30 days.

The term "personal property" shall mean any item reasonably recognizable as belonging to a person and having apparent utility or monetary value, except for exempt personal property.

The term "public camping" shall mean to cause or participate in the establishment of, or the act of remaining in or at, a campsite.

Sec. 9-8-2. - Public Camping Prohibited.

- (a) No person may sleep, or otherwise engage in public camping, on a public sidewalk, street, alley, lane, other public right-of-way, park, bench, or other publicly owned property, nor on or under any bridge or viaduct, at any time.
- (b) No person may sleep, nor otherwise engage in public camping, in any pedestrian or vehicular entrance to public or private property abutting a public right-of-way.
- (c) No person may sleep, nor otherwise engage in public camping, on any real property owned or otherwise maintained by the Village.
- (d) No person may park a vehicle out overnight within the Village for the purposes of sleeping or otherwise engaging in public camping in said vehicle.
- (e) The purposes of this section, the act of parking or leaving a vehicle parked for two (2) consecutive hours, and/or remaining within the public vehicle on any property under the jurisdiction of the Village for the purpose of public camping, for two (2) consecutive hours without permission of the Village Board, between the hours of midnight and 6:00 a.m., shall be considered a violation of this Ordinance.

Sec. 9-8-3. - Exceptions to Prohibition. Notwithstanding the foregoing, it shall not be a violation to engage in public in camping when done after a formal declaration of the Village in emergency circumstances.

Section 9-8-4 - Removal of Campsite

Removal of a campsite in violation of this ordinance may occur under the following circumstances:

- (a) Prior to removing a campsite, the Village shall post a notice, 24 hours in advance of the removal, unless immediate removal of the campsite is deemed to be necessary for one of the reasons in subparagraphs 1-4 below. If such immediate removal is undertaken, the basis for causing the immediate removal of such campsite should be adequately documented by the appropriate person(s).

- 1. An immediate removal of the campsite is necessary to maintain access to a property;
- 2. Immediate removal of a campsite is necessary to maintain the sanitary condition of the property
- 3. Immediate removal of the campsite is necessary because campsite is an obstruction to any public right of way; or,

4. Immediate removal of the campsite is necessary because the campsite poses a risk to the health and safety of the Village and its residents.

- (b) Upon any action pursuant to this section, the person causing such action to be taken shall inform an appropriate agency delivering social services to homeless individuals in the County, of the location of the campsite and the persons found in violation of this Ordinance, so said agency may determine whether or not it would be appropriate to offer its services to those persons.
- (c) If the 24-hour notice has been posted, and the 24-hour notice period has expired, then the campsite, as well as all personal property thereon, shall be removed by the Public Works Department acting on behalf of the Village.

Sec. 9-8-5. - Disposition and Release of Personal Property.

- (a) All personal property removed from any campsite which is not exempt personal property shall be stored by the Public Works Department for the Village, for a maximum of 30 days, during which time it should be reasonably available for and released to an individual confirming ownership. Thereafter, the property shall be disposed of by the Village.
- (b) All exempt personal property may be disposed of; or retained as evidence, turned over to the Ogle County Sheriff's Police.

Sec. 9-8-6. – Penalty

- (a) The penalty for a violation of this ordinance shall be a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500.00). A separate offence of this ordinance shall be deemed committed on each day on which a violation occurs or continues.
- (b) In addition to any other remedy provided by law or this Ordinance, any person found in violation of this section may be immediately removed from the premises where the campsite is located.

Section 2: This ordinance shall be effective from and after its passage, approval, and publication as provided by law. This ordinance shall be published in pamphlet form.

ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Stillman Valley, Illinois, this 11th day of May, 2026.

APPROVED by the Village President of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Stillman Valley, Illinois, this 11th day of May, 2026.

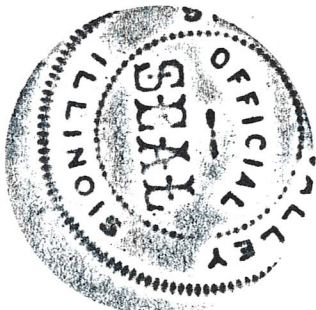
PASSED UPON MOTION BY: TRUSTEE Marsh

MOTION SECONDED BY: TRUSTEE Waltrip

AYES: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSTENTION, ABSENT; OTHER: 0



ATTEST:

BY: Martin Typer
MARTIN TYPER, Village President
Village of Stillman Valley, Illinois

YVONNE DEWEY, Village Clerk
Village of Stillman Valley, Illinois