



City Marshal's Office

City of Galveston

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October 21, 2021

To: Brian Maxwell, City Manager

Hon. Mayor and City Council Members

Subject: Consider for action adopting an Ordinance amending the Code of the City of Galveston, Chapter 37, "Wrecker, Tow and Storage Facility", to amend regulations, procedures, to make clarifications, and provide for penalties and fees as applicable and to make various findings and provisions related to the subject.

I. **Background.** Chapter 37, "Wrecker, Tow and Storage Facility" was last amended in July 2020 which amended regulations, procedures, and/or definitions; and made clarifications, renamed, renumbered and rearranged the chapter. Upon review the Ordinance inadvertently did not include applicable fees and certain requirements for release of vehicles that had been towed. Additionally, there was confusion regarding suspension and revocation of permits. The amendments contemplated in this update will correct these issues.

II. **Current Situation**

- A. The current City Ordinance:
 - a. Does not include permitting application fees and inspection fees.
 - b. Does not include certain requirements for the release of a vehicle from a tow facility that is being driven from the facility.
 - c. There is confusion regarding the number of passes for suspension of a permit and that for revocation of a permit.
- B. The City must adopt the new ordinance in order to correct the above stated issues.
- C. There are seven (7) wrecker companies on the City's rotation list. All seven (7) have been contacted and are in agreement with the changes.

III. **Alternatives in order of priority**

- A. City Council adopts the Ordinance amending Chapter 37 to correct the above stated issues.
- B. City Council does not adopt the Ordinance, amending Chapter 37 to correct the above stated issues.
 - 1. Cost – Undetermined, however the City is currently not receiving applicable fees due to the missing fee structure.
 - 2. Timing – Must be in effect immediately.

IV. Recommendation

The City Council adopts the Ordinance amending Chapter 37 "Wrecker, Tow and Storage Facility".

V. Fiscal Impact Report

Requested by N/A

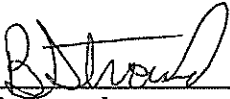
Funding Source N/A

Savings Estimation N/A

Attachments:

Ordinance Amending Chapter 37, "Wrecker, Tow and Storage Facility".

Respectfully Submitted,



**Butch Stroud,
City Marshal**