

Notice

On the 25th day of July, 2025 the Board of Trustees of the Town of Hochatown, Oklahoma, approved Ordinance No. 25 as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 25

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF HOCHATOWN, OKLAHOMA, REQUIRING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO COMPLY WITH THE RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING PAID AND COMBINATION FIRE DEPARTMENTS PURSUANT TO TITLE 11 O.S. §29-101 ET SEQ. AND §29-301 ET SEQ.; ESTABLISHING DUTIES AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE FIRE CHIEF; PRESCRIBING STANDARDS FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS; AND REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES.

Be it ordained by the Town of Hochatown, in McCurtain County, Oklahoma, that the members of the fire department shall abide by and be subject to all rules and regulations of Title 11 O.S. § 29-101 et seq., and § 29-301 et seq., for paid and/or combination fire departments including but not limited to the following as may be amended from time to time:

Title 11 O.S. § 29-102 – Fire Chief – Duties – Qualifications – Reporting Fire Loss

All cities having a paid fire department shall have one full-time fire chief who shall supervise and administer the fire department in accordance with the policies and procedures prescribed by the governing body or by the city manager. The fire department shall be under the direction and control of the fire chief who shall not serve as fire chief and also as police chief, city manager, mayor or any other position that impairs the ability to perform the duties of a fire chief. The fire chief, whether permanent or interim, of any paid municipal fire department shall have had at least three (3) years' actual experience as a paid fire fighter before assuming the position of fire chief. It shall be the duty of the fire chief to file the appropriate activity report forms with the Office of the State Fire Marshal in Oklahoma City on an annual basis. The activity report forms shall be designed by the State Fire Marshal and shall include, but not be limited to, the amount of property and vehicle fire loss, types of fires, inspections and investigations. The report shall include notification of all fire-related civilian deaths and injuries in the respective jurisdiction and of fire fighter deaths in the line of duty and of fire fighter injuries in the line of duty requiring the services of a hospital or physician or both.

Title 11 O.S. §29-303 – Volunteer Firefighters – Requirements

Volunteer firefighters of a combination fire department shall:

1. Be required, when notified, to respond to alarms of fire and other emergencies;
2. Be required to be present at all regular meetings, call meetings and schools presented for the benefit of the firefighters;
3. Be dropped from a fire department's rolls if such volunteer firefighter has two unexcused absences in succession or three unexcused absences in a period of three (3) months;
4. Notify the chief if such volunteer firefighter is leaving the municipality for an extended period of time;

5. Be expelled from the rolls if such volunteer firefighter refuses to attend training classes provided for him or her;

6. Be expelled from the rolls for the following offenses:

- a. conduct unbecoming of a firefighter,
- b. any act of insubordination,
- c. neglect of duty,
- d. any violation of rules and regulations governing the fire department, or
- e. conviction of a felony; and

7. Reside in the same county as the combination fire department he or she is enrolled in or in a county that immediately borders the county in which the combination fire department is located.

All ordinances and parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Town Trustees of the Town of Hochatown, Oklahoma this the 25th day of July, 2025.

Dated this 25th Day of July 2025
Julie Arrieta, Town Clerk
The Town of Hochatown, Oklahoma