

THE CITY OF WARWICK
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

CHAPTER 20
FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION

ARTICLE: II
FIRE DEPARTMENT

No..... Date.....

Approved.....Mayor

Be it ordained by the City of Warwick:

Section I. Chapter 20 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Warwick is hereby amended to add the following:

Sec. 20-65. – Policy for use of fire apparatus.

1. The City recognizes that the nature of the fire service creates extraordinary working conditions for fire personnel; these include but are not limited to:

- work schedule
- inability of workers to take work breaks
- maintaining fire crew integrity at all times(safety)
- the inability to have a normal eating and working conditions due to EMS and fire calls
- extended and consecutive working shifts

2. The City also recognizes that routine visits to food, convenience, pharmacies, and other businesses:

- Are required to maintain suitable and safe working conditions for the reasons listed above.
- Aids in the familiarization of department personnel with the layouts and operations of local businesses.
- Adds valuable income/revenue to area businesses when fire personnel expend money in the city.

3. IAFF Local 2748 recognizes that:

- 1 • The use of fire department vehicles for special visits to food, convenience, pharmacies,
2 and other businesses should be limited to necessities and should be scheduled together
3 whenever possible.
- 4 • It is important to conserve city resources by not abusing this right/privilege.
- 5 • It is important for crews to remain in their geographic district whenever possible.
- 6 • It is important for public safety and perception that multiple apparatus not be using this
7 right/privilege at the same location at the same time.

8
9 In recognition of the above the city establishes the following guidelines:

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11 1. The use of fire apparatus to go to food, convenience, pharmacies, and other businesses shall be
12 allowed.
- 13
14 2. Fire Crew integrity shall be maintained at all times.
- 15
16 3. The Company commander shall have the authority to determine when such trips are
17 appropriate and needed.
- 18
19 4. The use of businesses in the geographic district of the apparatus shall be used whenever
20 possible.
- 21
22 5. The use of apparatus for out of district trips shall require the prior approval of the Battalion
23 Chief.
- 24
25 6. Whenever possible, the use of apparatus for such trips shall be scheduled so as multiple tasks
26 are completed at the same time, and in conjunction with official department trips (i.e. trips to
27 headquarters, when returning from fire/EMS calls).
- 28
29 7. Stops to coffee or donut shops shall only be done when apparatus is already on the road for
30 department business, no special trips to coffee shops shall be allowed.
- 31
32 8. Food or beverages purchased at restaurants or coffee shops shall be consumed after departure
33 from the restaurant. At no time should personal sit at a table, or loiter in the parking lot to
34 consume food or beverages.
- 35
36 9. Multiple Fire Apparatus shall not visit the same location at the same time for such trips.
- 37
38 10. Fire Apparatus shall not be parked in a manner that blocks or obstructs the front entrance of
39 the business, private vehicle access to the business' parking lot, or handicapped parking.
- 40
41 11. Apparatus shall be parked in a position (front end out) to allow for immediate exit from the
42 business' parking lot, in the event an emergency call is received while at the business.
- 43
44 12. Loitering and personal conversations while at the business should be kept to a minimum.

1 Personal business should be conducted in a professional and expedient manner.

2
3 13. Dirty or Soot covered turnout gear shall not be worn into businesses.

4
5 14. Fire Personnel entering a business shall each have a portable radio with them and turned on
6 in anticipation of being dispatched to an emergency.

7
8 15. If all compartment doors can't be locked, or if the apparatus must be left running, a member
9 of the crew shall remain with the vehicle.

10
11 16. When it is required to keep apparatus running (i.e. winter time, fear of restart problems, etc.),
12 apparatus shall be parked in a position that does not allow the exhaust to enter or interfere with
13 the business or patrons.

14
15 17. The enforcement of this policy and any related disciplinary action shall be done by the
16 Chief/Administration of the Warwick Fire Department in accordance with Warwick Fire
17 Department Policies/Guidelines and in accordance with the labor contract between The City of
18 Warwick and IAFF Local 2748.

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20
21 Section II. This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as prescribed by law.

22
23 SPONSORED BY: COUNCILWOMAN VELLA-WILKINSON

24
25 COMMITTEE: ORDINANCE
26