ORDINANCE NO. 2014-12-01

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING ALARM DEVICES AND AUTOMATIC DIALING DEVICES WITHIN THE TOWNHSIP OF WINDSOR AND ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Board of Supervisors of Windsor Township, York County, Pennsylvania, and it is hereby enacted and ordained as follows:

<u>Section 1.</u> – Purpose.

This ordinance is being enacted for the purpose of providing rules and regulations concerning the implementation of the approval and regulation of alarm devices and automatic dialing devices in accordance with 18 PA.C.S. 7511, Act 70 of 1998, as amended. The definitions contained therein shall apply to those terms set forth herein.

Section 2. – Permit Required.

- A. Persons seeking to use an automatic dialing device, alarm device, alarm, or outdoor audible alarm shall first file a permit with the Township and obtain the prior written approval from the public safety agency which shall be notified of and/or respond to an alarm. The cost of the permit shall be established from time to time by resolution of the Board of Supervisors. The Township shall furnish forms which any person wishing to apply for a permit shall submit with his application. An alarm system which produces both a fire and burglar alarm shall be considered separate thereby requiring two permit approvals.
- B. All outdoor audible alarms that can be activated falsely shall be subject to the same conditions applicable to automatic dialing devices that result in false alarms.
- C. For the purpose of this Ordinance, the use of a common alarm for multiple tenant or user premises which do not provide common access and entry to the policeman or fireman responding to an alarm is strictly prohibited.
- D. The owner of an unoccupied property shall be considered the responsible party causing or permitting a false alarm.
- E. A person purchasing a premise in the Township on which an alarm device is located, shall not continue to operate the alarm device on the premises without obtaining or amending the existing alarm device permit within thirty (30) days after the person obtains title to the premises.

Section 3. - Mechanical Defects.

The owner of an alarm device, automatic dialing device or audible alarm may file an affidavit with the Township indicating under oath that the false alarms previously caused by said system were caused by known mechanical or other defect within the system (not to include improper use). Said occupant may verify and shall include a statement by competent workmen or repairman in the field that said system was defective and such deficiency has been corrected. Upon the filing of such affidavit with appropriate exhibits and the payment of the administration fee as established from time to time by resolution of the Board of Supervisors of Windsor Township, the false alarm concerning the premises shall be considered void and of no legal effect.

<u>Section 4.</u> – Violations and Penalties.

- A. In the event that an alarm device, automatic dialing device or audible alarm issues a false alarm, the occupant of the premises from which the false alarm was issued shall be subject to an administrative fee which shall be set by resolution of the Board of Supervisors.
- B. In the event that the administrative fee is assessed and not paid or there is a violation of any other provision of this Ordinance, then the owner or occupant of the premises, as the case may be, shall be subject to prosecution in a proceeding before the District Magistrate in whose district the Township is located and upon conviction, shall be required to pay a fine not exceeding three hundred (\$300.00) dollars for each violation.
- C. Nothing in this section is intended to prohibit the prosecution of false alarms pursuant to 18 PA.C.S. 7511, as may be amended, by the public service agency responding to the false alarm or by the Township.

Section 5. – Liability of Municipality.

The issuance of any permit shall not constitute acceptance by the Township of any liability to maintain any equipment or answer alarms nor otherwise to render the Township liable to any person for any loss or damage relating to the alarm system or procedure.

Section 6.

The provisions of this Ordinance shall be severable and should any one or more of its provisions, for any reason, be held illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provisions of this Ordinance, and this Ordinance shall, in such circumstances, be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provisions had not been contained herein.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED THIS

15 DAY OF December 2014.

WINDSOR TOWNSHIP **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

ATTEST:

Jennifer L. Gunnet, Secretary