

ORDINANCE NO. 13

An Ordinance to promote the health, safety and general welfare of the inhabitants of the Town of Mardela Springs in the State of Maryland, providing for the disposal of abandoned, unlicensed or inoperable vehicles in the Town of Mardela Springs and to provide a special type of notice in such cases and to establish a time limit for the disposition or removal from the premises of the same or for the removal and/or disposition by the Commissioners of Mardela Springs, Maryland in the event of the failure to do so by others; and

WHEREAS, the storing of abandoned and unusable automobiles upon unimproved and improved properties or in the public streets within the Town of Mardela Springs, Maryland, is recognized as a source of danger to the inhabitants thereof, in that the same are a constant fire hazard and such condition is also a menace to the health of the community.

SECTION I. BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED by the Commissioners of Mardela Springs that from and after the passage of this Ordinance, in the case of abandoned, unlicensed or inoperable vehicles, the following procedure shall be followed:

(a) Twenty (20) days' written notice shall be given to the owners of the property where the vehicle is located (with a copy to the owner of the vehicle if known), whether on a street, improved or unimproved lot in said Town, to license, repair or remove same, and a copy of such notice shall be posted on the vehicle;

(b) If the terms of the notice are not complied with within the twenty (20) day period as provided, the Town shall then have power and authority to physically remove the vehicle by towing or otherwise moving it to an open storage area maintained by the Town, where the vehicle shall remain for at least sixty (60) days;

(c) During the said sixty (60) day period, the vehicle shall remain posted and the person properly designated by said Commissioners shall publish at least one (1) notice in a newspaper published in Wicomico County, State of Maryland, identifying the vehicle by make, year, model, serial number, color and owner's name (if known), stating the location where stored and stating that the same will be permanently disposed of unless reclaimed by the owner within sixty (60) days; and during the sixty (60) day period, the owner shall be entitled to reclaim the vehicle by furnishing the Town and/or the person so designated by the Commissioners of said Town sufficient proof that the vehicle will be licensed or repaired, or both, as the case may require, and by paying to the Town its towing charge, the cost of notice and storage costs, if any; and

(d) If the vehicle is not reclaimed within the sixty (60) days, it shall be conclusively presumed to be abandoned by its owner, and the Town shall then have power and authority to dispose of same permanently by selling same, giving same to a junk yard or disposing of same by any other reasonable means which the Town may select.

SECTION II. This Ordinance shall take effect from and after the date of its final passage.

The above Ordinance was introduced at a meeting of the Commissioners of Mardela Springs, Maryland, on the 11th day of April, 1974, and having been published as required by law in the meantime, was finally passed at its meeting held on the 9th day of May, 1974.

ATTEST:

Ray M. Bowler
Secretary of the Commissioners
of Mardela Springs

George W. Dennis
President of the Commissioner
of Mardela Springs