



City of Harrisonburg, Virginia

Office of the City Manager

409 South Main Street
Post Office Box 20031
Harrisonburg, VA 22802
(540) 432-7701 / FAX (540) 432-7778

G. Chris Brown
City Attorney

TO: Eric Campbell, City Manager
FROM: Wesley Russ, Assistant City Attorney
DATE: February 15, 2019
RE: Proposed Adoption of Title 5, Chapter 1, Article C: Law-Enforcement-Requested Towing

Summary: Consider adopting a new article, Title 5, Chapter 1, Article C, related to Law-Enforcement-Requested Towing.

Background: Prior to contracting with a private party to tow unattended, abandoned, or immobilized vehicles at the request of the police department, Virginia Code § 46.2-1217 requires the City to appoint an advisory board.

Key Issues: This proposed Article is intended to bring the City's practices in line with requirements from the state code. In lieu of operating its own tow trucks, law enforcement often contracts with private towing companies to address unattended, abandoned, or immobilized vehicles.

This article would establish the required advisory board composed of representatives from local law enforcement, local towing operators, and members of the general public. The advisory board will be responsible for advising City Council on appropriate policies to regulate towing service provided at the request of local law enforcement.

Environmental Impact: N/A

Fiscal Impact: N/A

Prior Actions: N/A

Alternatives: (a) Adopt Title 5, Chapter 1, Article C as proposed; or
(b) N/A.

Community Engagement: N/A

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the Article as presented.

Attachments: 1. Proposed text of Title 5, Chapter 1, Article C.

Review:



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The initiating Department Director will place in Legistar, in sequence of transmittal, the names of each department that must initial their review in order for this item to be placed on the City Council agenda. The completion of review only addresses the readiness of the issue for Council consideration. This does not address the recommendation for approval or denial of the issue.

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