

Chapter 26

FIRE DEPARTMENT

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[HISTORY: Adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Canonsburg as indicated in article histories. Amendments noted where applicable.]

GENERAL REFERENCES

Alarms — See Ch. 63.

ARTICLE I Volunteer Fire Department [Adopted 11-1-1988 as Ch. 7, Part 1, of the 1988 Code]

§ 26-1. Establishment of Department.

A Fire Department is formed to be composed of a Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief and volunteer firemen.

§ 26-2. Appointment of Chief and Assistant. [Amended 12-16-1997 by Ord. No. 1216]

The Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief shall be elected by the members of the Fire Department.

§ 26-3. Authority of Chief.

The Fire Chief shall, on the occasion of fires, have full control and management over members of the Fire Department and all other persons assisting in attempts to control and extinguish such fires.

ARTICLE II
Firemen's Relief Association
[Adopted 11-1-1988 as Ch. 1, Part 9A, of the 1988 Code]

§ 26-4. Recognition of Firemen's Relief Association.

The Canonsburg Firemen's Relief Association is hereby recognized as actively engaged in providing fire protection and/or emergency services in the Borough of Canonsburg.

- A. The above-named association has been formed for the benefit of its members and their families in case of death, sickness, temporary or permanent disability or accident suffered in the line of duty.
- B. The above-named Association of the Borough of Canonsburg is designated as the proper association to receive such funds as are due and payable to the Borough Treasurer by the Treasurer of the State of Pennsylvania from the tax on premiums from foreign fire insurance companies.

§ 26-5. Certification to Auditor General.

The Borough Council shall annually certify to the Auditor General of the Commonwealth the name(s) of the active associations and the percentage of service they contribute to the protection of the borough. Such certification shall be on forms prescribed by the Auditor General.

§ 26-6. Annual appropriation.

There is annually appropriated from the Borough Treasury all such sums of money that may hereafter be paid into the Borough Treasury by the Treasurer of the State of Pennsylvania on account of taxes paid on premiums of foreign fire insurance companies in pursuance of the Act of December 18, 1984, No. 205, § 701 et seq. as hereafter amended, supplemented, modified or reenacted by the General Assembly of Pennsylvania.¹ Such moneys received by the Borough Treasurer from the State Treasurer shall be distributed to the duly recognized association within 60 days of receipt. The funds shall be distributed on the basis of the percentage of service established in the certification to the Auditor General and with other provisions of the Act.

ARTICLE III
Fire Fund
[Adopted 11-1-1988 as Ch. 1, Part 9B, of the 1988 Code]

§ 26-7. Fund established.

There is hereby established a Special Fire Fund, which will be composed of certain millage assessed by the Borough Council from year to year, specifically for fire purposes, only as specified in the annual tax ordinance.

1. Editor's Note: See 53 P.S. § 895.701 et seq.

§ 26-8. Responsibilities of Fire Department.

The Canonsburg Volunteer Fire Department, by the acceptance of the funds from the special levy, shall agree that the Special Fire Fund shall be subject to the following conditions:

- A. The Canonsburg Volunteer Fire Department shall submit an annual budget to the Borough Council of its intended use of the fund at the time the Council prepares its own budget.
- B. The expenditures by the Canonsburg Volunteer Fire Department from this fund shall be only for items which qualify under the Borough Code² as proper expenditures and shall be subject to audit by the independent auditors.
- C. The Canonsburg Volunteer Fire Department shall designate a treasurer from its ranks and/or other officers to disperse the funds from this account according to acceptable accounting procedures and with the proper safeguard to ensure the proper authorization of all purchases by vouchers and other systems as shall from time to time be recommended by the independent auditors.

§ 26-9. Transfer of equipment to Department. [Amended 12-16-1997 by Ord. No. 1216]

- A. The Canonsburg Volunteer Fire Department, in accepting these items, agrees that it will be responsible for all maintenance, insurance and replacement of such equipment. It will also maintain such other equipment as it may own for the protection of the citizens and property of the borough from fires.
- B. The Fire Department will maintain a pumper or similar type of equipment at all times within the borough limits for the protection of the borough property and citizens.

§ 26-10. Borough to assume certain costs.

The borough will continue to assume the cost of fire hydrant rental, emergency phone and warning systems and building maintenance (including janitorial service), and provide the quarters for the firemen and their equipment, whereas the Fire Department, on accepting the funds from this Special Fire Fund, agrees to assume the cost of the retainer for medical services, all private phones in the department, the individual home alarm systems, miscellaneous supplies, maintenance of all equipment and the purchase of any and all new equipment, including major capital equipment, such as new trucks.

2. Editor's Note: See 53 P.S. § 45101 et seq.