

TITLE I: GENERAL PROVISIONS

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CHAPTER 10: RULES OF CONSTRUCTION; GENERAL PENALTY

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• 10.01 TITLE OF CODE.

This codification of ordinances by and for the Village of Jones Creek, Texas, shall be designated as the Code of Jones Creek and may be so cited.

Statutory reference:

Authority of municipality to codify ordinances, see Tex. Local Government Code Ch. 53

▪ **10.02 INTERPRETATION.**

Unless otherwise provided herein, or by law or implication required, the same rules of construction, definition, and application shall govern the interpretation of this code as those governing the interpretation of state law.

▪ **10.03 APPLICATION TO FUTURE ORDINANCES.**

All provisions of Title I compatible with future legislation shall apply to ordinances hereafter adopted amending or supplementing this code unless otherwise specifically provided.

▪ **10.04 CAPTIONS.**

Headings and captions used in this code, other than the title, chapter, and section numbers, are employed for reference purposes only and shall not be deemed a part of the text of any section.

▪ **10.05 DEFINITIONS.**

(A) *General rule.* Words and phrases shall be taken in their plain or ordinary and usual sense; however, technical words and phrases having a peculiar and appropriate meaning in law shall be understood according to their technical import.

(B) *Definitions.* For the purpose of this code, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

CODE, THIS CODE, or THIS CODE OF ORDINANCES. This municipal code as modified by amendment, revision, and adoption of new titles, chapters, or sections.

COUNCIL. The Village Council of Jones Creek, Texas.

COUNTY. Brazoria County, Texas.

MAY. The act referred to is permissive.

MONTH. A calendar month.

OATH. An affirmation in all cases in which, by law, an affirmation may be substituted for an oath, and in such cases the words **SWEAR** and **SWORN** shall be equivalent to the words **AFFIRM** and **AFFIRMED**.

OFFICER, OFFICE, EMPLOYEE, COMMISSION, or DEPARTMENT. An officer, office, employee, commission, or department of this municipality unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

PERSON.

(a) Extends to and includes person, persons, firm, corporation, copartnership, trustee, lessee, or receiver.

(b) Whenever used in any clause prescribing and imposing a penalty, the terms **PERSON** or **WHOEVER** as applied to any unincorporated entity shall mean the partners or members thereof, and as applied to corporations, the officers or agents thereof.

PRECEDING or FOLLOWING. Next before or next after, respectively.

SHALL. The act referred to is mandatory.

SIGNATURE or SUBSCRIPTION. Includes a mark when the person cannot write.

STATE. The State of Texas.

SUBCHAPTER.

(a) A division of a chapter, designated in this code by a heading in the chapter analysis and a capitalized heading in the body of the chapter, setting apart a group of sections related by the subject matter of the heading.

(b) Not all chapters have **SUBCHAPTERS**.

VILLAGE, CITY, or MUNICIPALITY. The Village of Jones Creek, Texas.

WRITTEN. Any representation of words, letters, or figures, whether by printing or otherwise.

YEAR. A calendar year, unless otherwise expressed.

10.06 RULES OF INTERPRETATION.

The construction of all ordinances of this municipality shall be by the following rules, unless that construction is plainly repugnant to the intent of the legislative body or of the context of the same ordinance.

(A) **AND or OR.** Either conjunction shall include the other as if written **and/or**, if the sense requires it.

(B) *Acts by assistants.* When a statute or ordinance requires an act to be done which, by law, an agent or deputy as well may do as the principal, the requisition shall be satisfied by the performance of the act by an authorized agent or deputy.

(C) *Gender; singular and plural; tenses.* Words denoting the masculine gender shall be deemed to include the feminine and neuter genders; words in the singular shall include the plural, and words in the plural shall include the singular; the use of a verb in the present tense shall include the future, if applicable.

(D) *General term.* A general term following specific enumeration of terms is not to be limited to the class enumerated unless expressly so limited.

▪ **10.07 SEVERABILITY.**

If any provision of this code as now or later amended or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application.

▪ **10.08 REFERENCE TO OTHER SECTIONS.**

Whenever in a section reference is made to another section hereof, the reference shall extend and apply to the section referred to as subsequently amended, revised, recodified, or renumbered, unless the subject matter is changed or materially altered by the amendment or revision.

▪ **10.09 REFERENCE TO OFFICES.**

Reference to a public office or officer shall be deemed to apply to any office, officer, or employee of this municipality exercising the powers, duties, or functions contemplated in the provision, irrespective of any transfer of functions or change in the official title of the functionary.

▪ **10.10 ERRORS AND OMISSIONS.**

(A) If a manifest error is discovered, consisting of the misspelling of any words; the omission of any word or words necessary to express the intention of the provisions affected; the use of a word or words to which no meaning can be attached; or the use of a word or words when another word or words was clearly intended to express the intent, the spelling shall be corrected and the word or words supplied, omitted, or substituted as will conform with the manifest intention, and the provisions shall have the same effect as though the correct words were contained in the text as originally published.

(B) No alteration shall be made or permitted if any question exists regarding the nature or extent of the error.

▪ **10.11 OFFICIAL TIME.**

The official time, as established by applicable state and federal laws, shall be the official time within this municipality for the transaction of all municipal business.

▪ **10.12 REASONABLE TIME.**

(A) In all cases where an ordinance requires an act to be done in a reasonable time or requires reasonable notice to be given, **REASONABLE TIME OR NOTICE** shall be deemed to mean the time which is necessary for a prompt performance of that act or the giving of that notice.

(B) The time within which an act is to be done, as herein provided, shall be computed by excluding the first day and including the last. If the last day be Sunday, it shall be excluded.

▪ **10.13 ORDINANCES REPEALED.**

This code, from and after its effective date, shall contain all of the provisions of a general nature pertaining to the subjects herein enumerated and embraced. All prior ordinances pertaining to the subjects treated by this code shall be deemed repealed, from and after the effective date of this code.

▪ **10.14 ORDINANCES UNAFFECTED.**

(A) All ordinances of a temporary or special nature and all other ordinances pertaining to subjects not embraced in this code shall remain in full force and effect unless herein repealed expressly or by necessary implication, including, but not limited to, the following types of ordinances:

(1) Any ordinance guaranteeing or promising the payment of money for the municipality or authorizing the issuance of any bonds of the municipality or any evidence of the municipality's indebtedness;

(2) Any appropriation ordinance or ordinance providing for an annual budget or prescribing salaries for municipal officers and employees;

(3) Any ordinance annexing territory to the municipality or discontinuing territory as a part of the municipality;

(4) Any ordinance designating or otherwise relating to municipal depositories;

(5) Any ordinance granting any franchise, permit, or other right;

(6) Any ordinance approving, prescribing, or otherwise relating to rates to be charged by private utility companies;

(7) Any ordinance approving, authorizing, or otherwise relating to any contract or agreement;

(8) Any ordinance accepting, dedicating, vacating, or otherwise relating to any easement; and

(9) Any ordinance establishing or amending the zoning designation of land.

(B) All such ordinances mentioned in division (A) above are hereby recognized as continuing in full force and effect to the same extent as if set out at length herein.

▪ **10.15 EFFECTIVE DATE OF ORDINANCES.**

All ordinances passed by the legislative body requiring publication shall take effect from and after the due publication thereof, unless otherwise expressly provided. Ordinances not requiring publication shall take effect from their passage, unless otherwise expressly provided.

▪ **10.16 REPEAL OR MODIFICATION OF ORDINANCE.**

(A) Whenever any ordinance, or part of an ordinance, shall be repealed or modified by a subsequent ordinance, the ordinance, or part of an ordinance, thus repealed or modified shall continue in force until the due publication of the ordinance repealing or modifying it when publication is required to give effect thereto, unless otherwise expressly provided.

(B) No suit, proceedings, right, fine, forfeiture, or penalty instituted, created, given, secured, or accrued under any ordinance previous to its repeal shall in any way be affected, released, or discharged, but may be prosecuted, enjoyed, and recovered as fully as if the ordinance had continued in force, unless it is otherwise expressly provided.

(C) When any ordinance repealing a former ordinance, clause, or provision shall be itself repealed, the repeal shall not be construed to revive the former ordinance, clause, or provision, unless it is expressly provided.

▪ **10.17 ORDINANCES WHICH AMEND OR SUPPLEMENT CODE.**

(A) If the legislative body shall desire to amend any existing chapter or section of this code, the chapter or section shall be specifically repealed and a new chapter or section, containing the desired amendment, substituted in its place.

(B) Any ordinance which is proposed to add to the existing code a new chapter or section shall indicate, with reference to the arrangement of this code, the proper number of the chapter or section. In addition to such indication thereof as may appear in the text of the proposed ordinance, a caption or title shall be shown in concise form above the ordinance.

▸ **10.18 SECTION HISTORIES; STATUTORY REFERENCES.**

(A) As histories for the code sections, the specific number and passage date of the original ordinance, and the amending ordinances, if any, are listed following the text of the code section. Example: (Ord. 10, passed 1-1-1960; Ord. 15, passed 1-1-1970; Ord. 20, passed 1-1-1980; Ord. 25, passed 1-1-1985)

(B) (1) If a statutory cite is included in the history, this indicates that the text of the section reads substantially the same as the statute. Example: (Tex. Local Government Code ' 54.001) (Ord. 10, passed 1-1-1960; Ord. 20, passed 1-1-1980)

(2) If a statutory cite is set forth as a statutory reference@ following the text of the section, this indicates that the reader should refer to that statute for further information. Example:

▸ **39.01 PUBLIC RECORDS AVAILABLE.**

This municipality shall make available to any person for inspection or copying all public records, unless otherwise exempted by state law.

Statutory reference:

Inspection of public records, see Tex. Local Government Code ' ' 552.001 et seq.

▸ **10.19 ALTERING OR TAMPERING WITH CODE.**

It shall be an offense for any unauthorized person to change or amend, by addition or deletion, any part or portion of this code, or to insert or delete pages or portions thereof, or to alter or to tamper with this code in any manner whatsoever which will cause a law of the town to be misrepresented thereby. Penalty, see ' 10.99

▸ **10.99 PENALTY.**

(A) Whenever in this code, or in any ordinance of the town, an act is prohibited or is made or declared to be unlawful or an offense or a misdemeanor, or whenever in the code or ordinance the doing of any act is required or the failure to do any act is declared to be unlawful, and no specific penalty is provided therefor, the violation of any such provision of this code or any such ordinance shall be punished by:

(1) A fine not to exceed \$2,000 in all cases arising under municipal ordinances that govern fire

safety, zoning, and public health and sanitation;

(2) A fine not to exceed \$2,000 if a motor vehicle is used in illegal dumping or an offense under the law or town ordinance violated by the illegal dumping; or

(3) A fine not to exceed \$500 in all other cases; provided, however, that no penalty shall be greater or less than the penalty provided for the same or a similar offense under the laws of the state.

(B) Each day any violation of this code, or of any ordinance, shall continue shall constitute a separate offense. In the event that any such violation is designated as a nuisance under the provisions of this code, the nuisance may be summarily abated by the Mayor or the Village Marshal or their assigns.

Statutory reference:

Municipal penalties, see Tex. Local Government Code ' 54.001

CHAPTER 11: VILLAGE STANDARDS

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GENERAL PROVISIONS

11.01 VILLAGE SEAL.

(A) *Adoption of seal.* There is hereby adopted for the village a seal which shall have a star of five points in the center, with the letters AT@ AE@ AX@ AA@ AS@ engraved between the rays of the star, with the words AVillage of Jones Creek, Texas@ engraved thereon in a circle surrounding the star, and with the word ASEAL@ engraved in the center of the star.

(B) *Keeping and use of seal.* The seal of the village shall be kept by the Village Secretary/Administrator and shall be used by the Secretary/Administrator to attest the official signature of the Mayor and to authenticate the official acts of the Secretary/Administrator.

(Ord. VI, passed 2-19-1970)

VILLAGE BOUNDARIES**· 11.15 SHORT TITLE.**

This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the AOriginal Boundary and Map Subchapter of the Village of Jones Creek, Texas@.
(Ord. XV, passed 4-28-1970)

· 11.16 ADOPTION OF SURVEY.

The Village Council find as a matter of fact that an actual survey of the boundaries of said village was made by Dunbar and Dickson, Consulting Engineers of Freeport, Texas, on September 17, 1969, a copy of the field notes of said survey being attached to Ord. XV, referred to as Exhibit AA@, and hereto made a part of this section as fully as if set out at length herein. The Village Council further find as a matter of fact that such survey is an accurate survey of the boundaries of said village designated in the petition for the incorporation filed in the office of the County Judge on October 6, 1969, and as set forth in the order of said Judge dated November 6, 1969, a certified copy of which is recorded in Volume 1046, beginning at page 632 of the Deed Records of Brazoria County, Texas. The Village Council further find as a matter of fact that such survey is an accurate survey of the boundaries of said village as the same exist at the time of the reading, passage, and approval of this subchapter. Therefore, pursuant to the provisions of Tex. Revised Civil Statutes Art. 971 (1925), the Village Council do hereby ordain that such survey shall be, and the same is hereby adopted as, the official survey of the original boundaries of said village and do hereby direct that such field notes be recorded by the Village Secretary/Administrator in the minute book thereof.
(Ord. XV, passed 4-28-1970)

· 11.17 ADOPTION OF MAP BOUNDARIES.

The Village Council find as a matter of fact that the original boundaries of said village, as described in the survey adopted by ' 11.16, are correctly shown on the map or plat styled AProposed Village Limits of Jones Creek, Brazoria County, Texas@, prepared by Dunbar and Dickson, Consulting Engineers of Freeport, Texas, on August 27, 1969, a copy of which is duly recorded in Volume 1046, beginning at page 632 of the Deed Records of Brazoria County, Texas. The Village Council further find as a matter of fact that the boundaries shown on such map or plat are the boundaries of said village as they exist at the time of the reading, passage, and approval of this subchapter. Therefore, pursuant to the provisions of Tex. Revised Civil Statutes Art. 971a (1925), the Village Council do hereby ordain that such map or plat be and the same is hereby adopted as the official map showing the original boundaries of the village, and do hereby direct that the Village Secretary/Administrator endorse thereon the words AOfficial Map of the Original Boundaries, of the Village of Jones Creek, Texas, adopted by Ordinance No. XV on April 28, 1970@. The Village Council do further direct that such map or plat shall hereafter

be kept in the office of the Village Secretary/Administrator.
(Ord. XV, passed 4-28-1970)

▪ **11.18 ADOPTION OF STREET AND ROAD NAMES.**

The Village Council hereby adopt as the official names of the existing public streets within the incorporated limits of said village those names printed on the map marked Exhibit AA@, attached to Ord. XV and made a part of this section for all appropriate purposes.
(Ord. XV, passed 4-28-1970; Ord. 49, passed 7-30-1974)

▪ **11.19 ADOPTION OF HOUSE AND COMMERCIAL BUILDING NUMBERS.**

(A) The numbers heretofore or hereafter given to dwelling houses and commercial buildings situated in the village by Exhibit AA@, attached to Ord. XV shall be the official house or building numbers for all such dwelling houses and commercial buildings, and may be used to describe the location of the same when a more particular description is not required by the laws of the state or of the United States.

(B) The owner and occupant of every premises within the incorporated limits of the village, on which there is located a dwelling house or commercial building, shall place and maintain thereon at all times at the front or portion thereof facing the public street on which such premises is located and at a location clearly visible from such street the numbers or figures assigned to such dwelling house or building in the manner provided in division (A) above. Such numbers or figures shall be three and one-half inches or larger, be of contrasting color to the background to which the same are affixed, be of durable material (wood or metal), and affixed permanently to such dwelling or commercial building.
(Ord. XV, passed 4-28-1970; Ord. 179, passed 3-19-1984) Penalty, see ' 11.99

▪ **11.20 POPULATION.**

The Village Council hereby find as a matter of fact that the population of said village at the time of its incorporation and at the time of the reading, passage, and approval of this subchapter is 2,215 inhabitants.
(Ord. XV, passed 4-28-1970)

▪ **11.21 BOUNDARIES CROSSING STATE HIGHWAY NO. 36; SIGNAGE.**

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The Village Council hereby find as a matter of fact that the most westerly corporate limits or boundary of said village, as described in the survey adopted by ' 11.16, crosses the right-of-way of State Highway No. 36 at a point represented by a northerly extension of the west boundary line of the Jones Creekwood Subdivision at right angles across said right-of-way and that the most easterly corporate limits or boundary of said village, as described in said survey, crosses said right-of-way at the point at which said right-of-way intersects the right descending bank of Jones Creek. Therefore, the Village Council do hereby ordain that the state=s Highway Commission be and it is hereby requested to erect appropriate signs at each of said points reflecting the corporate limits of said village and its population, and do hereby direct that the Village Secretary/Administrator notify said Commission of such request by delivering to the appropriate officers or employees thereof a certified copy of this subchapter.

(Ord. XV, passed 4-28-1970)

' 11.99 PENALTY.

(A) Any person violating any provision of this chapter for which no specific penalty is prescribed shall be subject to ' 10.99 of this code of ordinances.

(B) Any person violating any of the provisions of ' 11.19(B) shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, assessed a punishment of not less than \$25 nor more than \$500. Each and every day any such violation continues or occurs shall constitute a separate offense.

(Ord. 179, passed 3-19-1984)