



AGENDA ACTION FORM

Consideration of an Ordinance to Amend Kingsport Code of Ordinances Chapter 34, Article IV Relative to Alarm Systems and Section 2-264 Relative to Special Code Enforcement Officer’s Authority

To: Board of Mayor and Aldermen
From: Chris McCartt, City Manager *CM*

Action Form No.: AF-253-2024
Work Session: September 17, 2024
First Reading: September 17, 2024
Final Adoption: **October 1, 2024**
Staff Work By: Bart Rowlett
Presentation By: Chris McCartt

Recommendation:
Approve the Ordinance.

Executive Summary:
This Ordinance will enact changes to the *Kingsport Code of Ordinances* which will modernize the requirements for alarm systems and bring City’s requirements more in line with other jurisdictions, as well as grant the authority for enforcement to special code enforcement officers within the fire department.

As a result of ongoing issues with first responders receiving false alarms, that is to say an alarm for which there is no emergency or hazard, staff have analyzed Code requirements for users of such systems. The current provisions are outdated having been unaltered since the early 1980s. For instance, currently K.C.O. § 34-87 contemplates an alarm system which dials a telephone number designated by the police department.

The proposed changes broaden the definition of what constitutes an “alarm system” to better align with current systems. Additionally, the proposed change re-defines a violation as three false alarms within a calendar year. A subsequent violation occurs for every false alarm thereafter. Furthermore, users of alarm systems will be required to maintain alarm systems in good working order free from defects which may cause a false alarm.

K.C.O. § 2-264 will also be amended to grant special code enforcement officers within the Fire Department authority to issue summonses for perceived violations of Chapter 34, Article IV. Police Officers are authorized to issue citations or summonses for any violation of city ordinances pursuant to K.C.O. § 1-15.

Attachments:
1. Ordinance

	<u>Y</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>O</u>
Baker	—	—	—
Cooper	—	—	—
Duncan	—	—	—
George	—	—	—
Mayes	—	—	—
Phillips	—	—	—
Montgomery	—	—	—