

ORDINANCE NO. 02-25

AN ORDINANCE REGARDING CONTROLLING UNCONTROLLED PARKING OF VEHICLES, ESTABLISHING PENALTIES, REPEALING INCONSISTENT LEGISLATION, AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, uncontrolled parking of vehicles within the Village contributes to safety concerns as well as the declining appearance of neighborhoods and is therefore considered a public nuisance.

WHEREAS, the Council for the Village adopted Ordinance No. 11-22 on December 6, 2022 after three (3) separate readings, to establish rules and restrictions regarding the acceptable parking of vehicles.

WHEREAS, the Council for the Village deems it necessary to amend said Ordinance No. 11-22 to clarify certain provisions.

BE IT THEREFORE ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF ROCKFORD, OHIO, THAT:

SECTION 1: The Council for the Village of Rockford, Ohio defines the following terms as they pertain to this Ordinance:

- (1) Front Yard. The term "front yard" refers to a yard extending across the full width of the lot, lying between the front property line or the right-of-way, and the furthestmost projection of the principal building or group of buildings.
- (2) Side Yard. The term "side yard" refers to a yard lying between the furthestmost projection of a building and a side lot line and extending from the required front yard to the required rear yard.
- (3) Rear Yard. The term "rear yard" refers to a yard extending across the full width of a lot and lying between the rear lot line and the furthestmost projection of a building.
- (4) Driveway. The term "driveway" refers to a passage way for vehicles composed of concrete, asphalt, or gravel that serves to connect a public street or alley to a garage or legal parking space.
- (5) Improved Area. The term "improved area" refers to a section of the lot that has been altered and defined by concrete, asphalt or gravel, with a positive boundary, for the means of providing a parking space for a vehicle. The improved area must be entered via a driveway or curb cut, except where adjacent to a paved street where there is no curb.

(6) Vehicle. Any car, truck, trailer, motor home, camper, recreational vehicle, boat, trailer of any type, snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle, or motorcycle.

SECTION 2: Parking of any vehicle shall be prohibited in the following areas:

(1) It shall be unlawful to park a vehicle in a front yard, in a side yard on the street side of a corner lot, or in a rear yard that abuts a street or an alley.

(2) It shall be unlawful to park a vehicle over any part of the sidewalk or curb that is parallel to the public way, including that part of the sidewalk that is part of a driveway.

SECTION 3: For the purposes of this Ordinance, parking is permitted in the following areas:

(a) An improved space in the prohibited parking area used as a parking space before this section is adopted, provided that the entrance to the approved area is via a driveway or curb cut, except where adjacent to a paved street where there is no curb.

(b) Parking in any portion of the driveway that may be located in the front yard, rear yard, or side yard, except the portion that is part of the sidewalk.

(c) Parking off the edge of the street where no curb is present, within the existing right-of-way, and in an improved area.

(d) Any improved area meeting setback requirements and other applicable zoning provisions. The Council and Zoning Department must determine compliance with all such improved areas.

(e) Parking in front yard, side yard, or rear yard for the purpose of unloading a vehicle, washing a vehicle or some other similar purpose. The vehicle, however, must be removed from the front yard, side yard, or rear yard once the task is completed or within 12 hours.

SECTION 4: Any officer of the Police Department shall enforce the provisions of this Ordinance. Anyone violating this Ordinance shall be subject to the following penalties:

(1) The Police Department shall issue a notification for a violation of this Ordinance to the occupant of the property by hand-delivering or posting the notice in a conspicuous location on the residence. The notification shall state that the improperly parked vehicle(s) must be moved from the prohibited location identified in this Ordinance or removed from the property within 3 days. If the improperly parked vehicle(s) are not moved within 3 days, then the violator shall be subject to a fine of \$ 100 per day for each day that a violation occurs starting on the 4th day after the violation notice has been issued by the Police Department.

(2) Any vehicle(s) remaining in violation for more than 30 days shall be rendered junk/abandoned and shall fall under Section 150.308 Abandoned and junked vehicles of the Village's Zoning Regulations.

(3) For the purposes of this Ordinance, the violator shall be the occupant(s) of the property upon which an unlawfully parked vehicle is located, regardless to whom the vehicle is registered.

SECTION 5: PENALTY.

(A) Whoever violates any provision of this chapter for which no penalty otherwise is provided in the section is guilty of 1 of the following:

(1) A minor misdemeanor;

(2) If, within 1 year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to 1 violation of this chapter, a misdemeanor of the fourth degree;

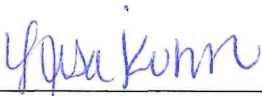
(3) If, within 1 year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to 2 or more violations of this chapter, a misdemeanor of the third degree.

SECTION 5: All legislation in conflict herewith shall be, and the same hereby is, repealed.

SECTION 6: This Ordinance is deemed to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force immediately from and after its passage for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the citizens of the Village of Rockford, Ohio.

Passed on this 5th day of August, 2025.

Attest:


Fiscal Officer

Approved:


Mayor

President of Council

1st reading 6-17-2025
2nd reading 7-15-2025
3rd reading 8-5-2025