

# ORDINANCES

OF THE

## City of Rensselaer

### RULES AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

### CORPORATION BOUNDARY AND BOUNDARIES OF ...WARDS...

Published by Order of the Common Council

### ORDINANCE COMMITTEE:

#### COUNCILMEN

FRANK B. MEYER, CHARLES G. SPITLER,  
JOHN C. PORTER.

CHARLES E. MILLS, City Attorney.

1896

### Ordinance No. 9.

#### Bulletin Boards.

An Ordinance to regulate bulletin boards in the City of Rensselaer.

(Ordained and Established June 22th, 1896.)

Sec. 1. Be it ordained by the common council of the City of Rensselaer: That any person or persons owning or controlling any dead wall, frame or board, within the corporate limits of the City of Rensselaer, used for the purpose of displaying advertisements thereon, or any person or persons who shall hereafter erect any such dead wall, frame or board, shall so brace the same so as to render them secure from falling over or being blown down, by fastening the same to posts securely set in the ground to the depth of not less than three feet and not more than twelve or fourteen feet apart, and of the height above the ground of said wall, board or frame: and from the top of each post so set there shall be extended a good and sufficient brace to a stake set opposite to the said post and to the rear of, and at right angles with said wall and securely fastened in the ground by being driven or planted not less than three feet into the ground, at a distance from said post of not less than six inches for every foot in height of said wall, the said brace to be securely fastened to the top of the post and to said stake, not more than six inches from the ground.

And it shall be the duty of the Marshal to see that all such dead walls, frames and boards, which are now or shall hereafter be erected shall conform in all things to the requirements of this ordinance, and that the same are kept in good repair; and any person or persons owning or controlling any dead wall, board or frame as herein set forth, who upon due notice from the Marshal that the same is out of repair, shall fail, refuse or neglect to put the same in repair, or who shall violate any of the provisions of this ordinance, shall upon conviction thereof, be fined in any sum not less than One (\$1.00) dollar nor more than Twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars, which fine, if for allowing such structure to remain out of repair, may be repeated for each and every day offense.

Sec. 2. This Ordinance shall be in force two weeks from and after its passage and publication in the Ordinances of the City of Rensselaer.

### Ordinance No. 10.

#### To Prevent Teams Running Away.

An Ordinance to prevent horses, mules or oxen being left untied while fastened to any wagon, carriage or other vehicle, in the City of Rensselaer.

[Ordained and Established June 22, 1896.]

Sec. 1. Be it Ordained by the Common Council of the City of Rensselaer: That any owner or driver of any team of horses, mules or oxen, leaving the same untied while hitched or fastened to any wagon, carriage, sleigh, or other vehicle, by the traces or other means of fastening, for the purpose of driving within the corporate limits of the City of Rensselaer, unless the same is under the immediate control of the owner or driver, or some other person capable of controlling the same, shall, upon conviction thereof be fined in any sum not less than One (\$1.00) Dollar or more than Twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars.

Sec. 2. This ordinance shall be in force two weeks from and after its passage and publication in the Ordinances of the City of Rensselaer.

### Ordinance No. 11.

#### Moving Of Houses, Etc.

An Ordinance Regulating the moving of houses and other structures along or across public streets or alleys in the City of Rensselaer.

[Ordained and Established June 22, 1896.]

Sec. 1. Be it Ordained by the Common Council of the City of Rensselaer: That it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to construct any public street or alley within said city, or to move any house or other structure along or across the same, or to permit or allow any house or other structure to be placed in or upon any such street or alley or to place or deposit building material for the erection of houses or structures of any kind, unless a permit therefor shall have been first obtained of the Common Council of said City, in the manner herein provided.

Sec. 2. Any person violating the provisions of Section 1 of this ordinance shall upon conviction thereof, be fined

ing material in any such street or alley, shall file with the City Clerk a petition therefor, addressed to said Common Council, which petition shall set forth the character of the house or structure to be removed and specifying the streets or alleys which the petitioner or petitioners desire to use or encumber in the removal thereof and the kind and quantity of material and the length of time it is desired to occupy said streets and alleys, and shall also file with such petition a bond, to the satisfaction of such Council, with approved surety, conditioned for the indemnity of the City of Rensselaer against all loss or claims for damage which may result from such occupancy and obstruction of said streets and alleys, and conditioned further that said City shall be saved, harmless, from the payment of any sum of money to any person or persons damaged by reason of such use and encumbrance of such streets and alleys. Upon the presentation of such petition, and the approval of such bond, the said Common Council may, if deemed advisable and expedient, grant the permit aforesaid, which action of the Council shall be entered of record, which record shall be full authority for the petitioners, to use and occupy such streets and alleys for the length of time designated for the purpose aforesaid.

Sec. 3. Any person violating the provisions of the first section of this ordinance shall, on conviction thereof, be fined in any sum, not less than Five (\$5.00) Dollars nor more than Fifty (\$50.00) dollars, and the further sum of Ten (\$10.00) dollars for each additional day any such obstruction shall be permitted to remain in any such street or alley without the obtaining of the permit as herein provided.

Sec. 4. This ordinance shall be in force two weeks from and after its passage and publication in the Ordinances of the City of Rensselaer.

### Ordinance No. 12.

#### Prevention of Fire, and Fire Limits.

An Ordinance regulating the erection of frame buildings on Block Three (3) Four (4) and Nine (9) of the City of Rensselaer, Indiana.

Ordained and Established June 22nd, 1896

Be it ordained by the Common Council of the City of Rensselaer, Jasper County, Indiana:

Sec. 1. That it shall be unlawful for any person to locate, erect, or cause to be erected, or assist in erecting, on any lot or part of a lot, or piece or parcel of ground on or within Blocks Three (3), Four (4) and Nine (9), in the original plat of Rensselaer, any building or any addition to any building, unless the outer walls be composed of brick or stone, and whose roof shall be composed of slate, metal, gravel or tile.

Sec. 2. Any person violating the foregoing Section 1 of this ordinance shall upon conviction thereof, be fined in any sum not exceeding One hundred Dollars, and after conviction as aforesaid the further sum, not exceeding twenty-five dollars per day for each day such building as hereby prohibited is allowed to remain after being so erected.

Provided: That the Common Council may in its discretion, grant permits to build, erect or construct any wooden building or shed not exceeding one story or twelve feet in height and not more than fifteen feet square, and,

Provided, further: That any such wooden building or shed permitted to be built by the Common Council within the prohibited Blocks as described in section one (1) of this ordinance, whose dimensions shall be more than eight feet square, more than ten feet high, shall have the roof and sides protected with iron.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the Marshal of said City, wherever any such building, or addition has been erected or located in violation of the foregoing sections 1 and 2, to report the same to the Mayor, showing by affidavits the location and description of the same and the name of the person or persons responsible for its erection. And the Mayor shall thereupon issue summons for such person or persons to appear before him and show cause why such building should not be removed and if good and sufficient reasons are not shown, the Mayor shall adjudge such building to have been unlawfully erected or located and issue his warrant to said Marshal to remove the same.

Sec. 4. All persons desiring to erect such buildings as may be permitted, by the provisions of section 2 may present a petition to the Common Council at any regular or special meeting thereof; such petition shall contain a description of the building proposed to be erected and an exact description of the lot or part of a lot upon which it is proposed to locate such frame or iron covered building. If the prayer of the petition be granted by the Common Council it shall be the duty of the City Clerk to issue a permit to such applicant upon the payment of fifty cents by such applicant, as his fee for issuing said permit.

Sec. 5. All ordinances concerning fire limits heretofore in force, conflicting herewith, are hereby repealed, except that violations thereof prior to the taking effect of this ordinance shall be prosecuted under such pre-existing ordinance applicable thereto.

Sec. 6. Whereas: An emergency exists, this ordinance shall be in force two weeks from after its passage and publication in the Ordinances of the City of Rensselaer.

### Ordinance No. 13.

#### Prevention of Fires.

An Ordinance Providing for the Prevention of Fires.

[Ordained and Established June 22nd, 1896.]

Sec. 1. Be it ordained by the Common Council of the City of Rensselaer: That any person convicted of having, placed or deposited in any unused room, or upon any lot or premises owned or occupied by him, any rags, bushes, leaves, straw, hay, or other combustible material, so as to endanger any building or structure, or who shall suffer and permit any such combustible material to be or remain upon such premises as aforesaid, shall be fined in any sum not less than Two (\$2.00) dollars nor more than Twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars, and in like sum for each day or part of a day the same may remain thereafter.

Sec. 2. This ordinance shall be in force two weeks from and after its passage and publication in the Ordinances of the City of Rensselaer.

### Ordinance No. 14.

An Ordinance Prohibiting the Tapping of any Sewer or Public Drain in the City of Rensselaer, and Providing a Penalty for Violation of the Same.

Sec. 1. Be it ordained by the Common Council of the City of Rensselaer, Indiana, that any person desiring to tap any sewer or public drain within the corporate limits of said City, shall first procure from the Common Council permission in writing, and have such work done under the direction of the City Engineer. All such taps shall be put in with "Y" joints of vitrified sewer pipe and cemented. Each applicant shall pay a fee of One Dollar to the City Engineer to pay for the record of same, and the superintendence of the work.

Sec. 2. Any person violating the provisions of Section 1 of this ordinance shall upon conviction thereof, be fined

in any sum not less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars for each offense.

### Ordinance No. 15.

#### Removal of Dangerous Buildings.

An Ordinance Providing for the Condemnation and Removal of Dangerous Buildings and other Structures and Declaring an emergency.

[Ordained and Established June 22nd, 1896.]

Sec. 1. Be it ordained by the Common Council of the City of Rensselaer, Indiana: That whenever the Marshal of said City shall file with the Mayor a written statement or any citizen of said City shall complain on affidavit to the effect that any building or other structure situated upon any street, alley or public thoroughfare of said City has become dangerous to persons using said street, alley or thoroughfare, by reason of the weakness of its walls or any other cause rendering such building or other structure liable to fall; or whenever the said Marshal shall notify the Mayor in writing that any building or other structure by reason of the faulty construction of the flues or chimneys or the manner of its gas fitting, has become dangerous to surrounding property and likely to be ignited and consumed by fire because of such faulty construction or defective fitting, the Mayor shall immediately cause notice to be served upon the owner of said building, if he can be found, commanding him to appear forthwith before the Mayor and show cause why such building or other structure should not be removed. And upon the hearing of said matter, the Mayor shall have power to subpoena and compel the attendance of witnesses.

If upon such hearing it shall be determined that the facts set out in the complaint filed by the Marshal, or citizens verified statement, are true, the Mayor shall at once deliver his warrant to said Marshal, commanding him forthwith to remove said building or cause the same to be done by said owner, and in case the said Marshal shall so remove the same, the City of Rensselaer shall bring an action in any court of competent jurisdiction against such owner for the costs and expenses thereof.

In the event the owner of any such building is a non-resident of said City, notice of the filing of said complaint may be served upon any agent of said owner or occupant of said building, and in case there be neither owner nor agent residing in said city, nor an occupant of said building, upon whom such notice may be served, the same may be had by publication ten days prior to such hearing.

Providing: That in any case of extreme emergencies, and where the lives and property of the citizens will be imperiled by such delay, no notice whatever shall be given, but the Mayor shall proceed to hear and determine the questions raised by such complaint in the absence of such owner.

Sec. 2. Whereas: An emergency exists, this ordinance shall be in force from and after its passage.

### Ordinance No. 16.

#### Cellar Doors and Gates.

An Ordinance regulating the closing of cellar doors and the hanging or maintaining of gates.

[Ordained and Established June 22, 1896.]

Sec. 1. Be it Ordained by the Common Council of the City of Rensselaer: That any person owning, occupying or controlling any cellar, the door or window of which may be in or on any sidewalk, street, lane or public alley of said city, and who shall cause or permit the same to remain open between the twilight of any given evening and daylight of the ensuing morning, shall on conviction of such offense be fined therefor in any sum not exceeding Ten (\$10.00) dollars.

Sec. 2. That it shall be unlawful for the owner of any property within the City of Rensselaer, abutting upon any alley or sidewalk to build or maintain any gate, except that the same be made to swing inward. And any person violating this ordinance shall upon conviction thereof be fined in any sum not exceeding Ten (\$10.00) Dollars.

Sec. 3. This Ordinance shall be in force two weeks from and after its passage and publication in the Ordinances of the City of Rensselaer.

### Ordinance No. 17.

#### Protection of Streets, Etc.

An Ordinance Regulating and protecting streets, alleys, sidewalks, gutters, shade trees, etc.

[Ordained and established June 22, 1896.]

Sec. 1. Be it ordained by the Common Council of the City of Rensselaer: That any person convicted of having obstructed or hindered free passage on any public street, lane, alley, sidewalk or crossing in said city, by placing thereon any vehicle to be repaired, or animals to be shod, or any box, barrel, furniture, or other material whatever or by hitching or tieing any animal on a sidewalk, shall be fined therefor in the sum of not more than Ten (\$10.00) dollars, nor less than One (\$1.00) Dollar.

Provided: That nothing herein contained shall prohibit the loading or unloading of any goods, wares, merchandise or other thing without needless delay. And

Provided, further: That the occupant of any premises who shall suffer or permit any coop, box, barrel, furniture, bale or other goods, wares or merchandise to be and remain upon any public street, lane, alley or sidewalk, immediately opposite the premises of such occupant, for a period of time exceeding twenty-four hours although he may not have placed the same at such place, shall be fined in any sum not less than One (\$1.00) nor more than Ten (\$10.00) dollars, and in like sum for each day, or part of a day, the same may remain thereafter.

Provided: That no occupant shall be liable for any such obstruction when placed at a greater distance than half the width of the street or alley from the premises of such occupant.

Sec. 2. Any person or persons convicted of having thrown or deposited, or caused any person in his, her or their employ to throw or deposit any vegetable matter, meat, filth, carcass of dead animals, straw, shavings of wood, clippings of leather, tin or iron, waste paper, slops, pieces of glass, glass bottles, or queensware, or crockeryware, manure, offal, or of having caused or suffered the flow or stagnation of any filthy or noisome liquid on any public square, park, common, uninclosed ground, street, lane, sidewalk, gutter or alley of said City, shall be fined herefor in any sum not less than One (\$1.00) Dollar nor more than Ten (\$10.00) dollars for every such offence.

Sec. 3. Any person convicted of having hitched or tied any horse or other animal to other animal to any shade tree situated adjacent to any sidewalk in said city, or so near any shade tree to allow such animal to bite or rub against the same, shall be fined in any sum not less than One (\$1.00) Dollar nor more than Ten (\$10.00) dollars.

Sec. 4. Any person convicted of having deposited manure or ashes of any kind, and permitting the same to remain more than twenty-four hours on any street or alley of said City, or any person who shall have deposited any wood, or on any such street or alley, and allowed the same to remain for a longer period than twenty days, shall be fined in the