TOWN OF LAGRANGE

ORDINANCE NO. 2014-02-18

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR SNOW RELATED EMERGENCIES

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the Town of LaGrange after careful consideration has determined it is necessary for the town to establish certain procedures which address weather related emergencies in the Town of LaGrange.

WHEREAS, it is the intent of this Ordinance to keep the residents of the Town of LaGrange informed of the weather related emergencies related to the municipal road conditions, and assist the LaGrange street department in clearing the town roadways by eliminating unnecessary obstacles and stranded vehicles.

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the public officials of the Town to preserve the public safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of LaGrange, Indiana.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Trustees of the Town of LaGrange:

- **Section 1:** This Ordinance shall be known as the 'Town of LaGrange Snow Emergency Ordinance' and shall apply to any and all streets, alleys or right-of-ways within the corporate limits of the town which are maintained by the Lagrange Street Department.
- **Section 2:** The President of the Town Board shall consult with the members of the Board, the Town Manager, the Town Marshal, and/or the Street Superintendent for the purpose of declaring the appropriate snow emergency level that would be in the best interest of the public safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of LaGrange.

Such emergency declaration shall remain in effect until the above mentioned officials or their respective designees who declared the emergency thereafter determine an emergency no longer exists and vacate the emergency order.

- **Section 3:** Snow emergency declarations shall consist of three (3) distinct levels in order to inform the residents of the Town of Lagrange the weather conditions and street conditions within the town, and to assist the street department in clearing the town roadways by eliminating unnecessary obstacles and stranded vehicles. The three (3) levels shall be defined as follows:
 - A. Level 1 RED Snow Emergency This level may be declared when streets have become impassable and the street department personnel are unable to keep the streets clear due to severe snowfall and/or high winds producing drifting and blizzard-like conditions. Travel may be restricted to emergency personnel only and essential emergency travel by members of the public by declaration of the Town, including any further restrictions which the Town Board deems necessary based upon the severity of the weather conditions.
 - B. Level 2 **ORANGE** Warning Snow Emergency This level may be declared when conditions are threatening to the safety of the public. Only essential travel on the town streets is recommended.
 - C. Level 3 <u>YELLOW</u> Watch Snow Emergency This level may be declared when routine travel or activities may be restricted in areas of the Town due to a hazardous situation. Citizens should use caution or avoid these areas.
- **Section 4:** The Town Board shall broadcast notice of any snow emergency declaration by contacting local law enforcement agencies, fire department, street superintendent, local news outlets, and posting said notice on the Town of LaGrange Website at www.lagrangein.org.
- **Section 5:** Vehicles exempt from this Ordinance shall include medical assistance, law enforcement, fire department, emergency management, public utility, fuel hauling vehicles, and employees of any of the above exempt services, if engaged in performing their respective duties. Any other vehicles violating this Ordinance are subject to fines and to removal by towing or other means at the expense of the owner of the vehicle, when such towing and/or removal is deemed necessary by any one or more of the following entities: *the Lagrange Street Department, the LaGrange Police Department, the LaGrange County Sheriff's Department, or Indiana State Police.*
- **Section 6:** During Snow Emergency declarations, parking procedures shall be implemented as follows:
 - A. Streets within the Town that normally permit parking on both sides of the street will be subject to "alternate side of the street" parking, specifically: On odd-numbered days of the month, parking is permitted ONLY on the odd-numbered side of the street; likewise, on even-numbered days of the month, parking is permitted ONLY on the even numbered side of the street.
 - B. Streets within the Town that normally permit parking on only one side of the street will be subject to "alternate" parking, specifically: If the permitted side, where

parking is allowed, is even-numbered, vehicles can park on that side ONLY on evennumbered days of the month; likewise, if the permitted side, where parking is allowed is odd-numbered, vehicles can park on that side ONLY on odd-numbered days of the month. No parking is ever permitted on the side of the street where parking is prohibited by posted sign.

Section 7: It is unlawful for any person to violate any provision this Ordinance, and any such violation shall be fined as follows:

- A. First offense in a 24 Month period shall be deemed a Class C Infraction subject to a fine not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00) plus costs of collection
- B. Each Subsequent offense in a 24 month period shall be deemed a Class A Infraction subject to a fine not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00) plus costs of collection.

In addition any violator of any provision of this Ordinance shall further pay any and all reasonable attorneys fees, monetary losses of the town, or any other expenses incurred in collecting and enforcing this ordinance.

ALL OF WHICH IS ORDAINED AND ADOPTED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF LAGRANGE, INDIANA, this 18th Day of February 2014

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF LAGRANGE, INDIANA

ATTEST:

Clerk-Treasurer