

Record of Ordinances

Ordinance No.: 2025-06

Passed: February 24, 2025

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING INOPERABLE MOTOR VEHICLES WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF WEST LAFAYETTE, REPEALING ORDINANCE 2023-22 AND ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH

WHEREAS, The Council of the Village of West Lafayette has determined it necessary to regulate inoperable motor vehicles within the Village of West Lafayette; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the of West Lafayette has determined that the keeping, storage, and harboring of inoperable motor vehicles, including boats and motor homes, depress the property values within the village; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the Village of West Lafayette desires to regulate the keeping, storage, and harboring of inoperable motor vehicles, including boats and motor homes, within the Village of West Lafayette.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL of the Village of West Lafayette, Coshocton County, Ohio that:

Section 1. DEFINITIONS: For the purpose of this ordinance, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

1. Inoperable motor vehicle means a motor vehicle:
 - A. Apparently inoperable; and
 - B. Extensively damaged, including, but not limited to any of the following: deflated, wrecked, or missing tires or rims; missing or wrecked body parts; broken or missing headlights, taillights, or brake lights; missing windows or windshield; missing all or some of the motor or transmission; missing or invalid license plate(s).
2. Inoperable motor vehicle parts: Any portions of motor vehicles including, but not limited to hoods, fenders, radiators, rims, motor parts, not being utilized for repair of a motor vehicle.
3. Inoperative condition: being incapable of being propelled under its own power.
4. Secured vehicles need to be inaccessible by others without permission or knowledge of the owners. Meaning no one or animals are able to occupy the vehicle, for their safety and the community's safety.

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Section 2. Storage of Inoperable Motor Vehicles on Public Roadways Prohibited.

No person, firm, or corporation, including any officer, agent, or employee of any firm or corporation acting on its behalf and within the scope of the officer's, agent's, or employee's office or employment, unless otherwise authorized by law, shall keep, store, place or allow an inoperable motor vehicle to remain on the roadways of the Village of West Lafayette.-

Section 3. Abandonment of motor vehicles.

No person shall abandon or store any motor vehicle on any public street within the limits of the village. A vehicle left on public or private property without permission, or acceptable cause, of the owner will be removed upon request of the property owner. If the vehicle owner is cooperative, and/or owner experiences mechanical failure, they will be granted 48 hours to move the vehicle.

Section 4. Impounding.

The Chief of Police or any member of his Department is hereby authorized to remove any vehicle abandoned within the Village in violation of this ordinance. Such vehicle shall be impounded until lawfully claimed or disposed of in accordance with the ordinance.

Section 5. Notice to Remove Inoperable Motor Vehicle or Properly Secured.

1. The Village Administrator upon obtaining knowledge of a violation of this ordinance shall notify the person in charge or control of such inoperable motor vehicles, junk motor vehicle parts, or motor vehicle in an inoperative condition to remove the violating property or to enclose the violating property within a garage or other suitable covering and secured within ten (10) days of receipt of the notice. The ten (10) day period shall commence on the day it is provided. The Village Administrator may extend the ten (10) day period at his/her discretion should the person in violation of this Ordinance submit a plan for remediation to the Village Administrator within the ten (10) day period.
2. Upon failure of the person in charge or control of the inoperable motor vehicle, inoperable motor vehicle parts, or motor vehicle in an inoperable condition to comply with the notice to remove or enclose the property, or to submit a plan for remediation, the Village Administrator may proceed to issue a citation for any violation of this ordinance existing after the ten (10) day period, or other agreed upon period of time, has expired.

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3. If the violation has not been abated, or the remediation plan is not completed in the agreed time frame, or no remediation plan is submitted, the Village Administrator shall meet with the Buildings and Properties committee to discuss and approve all legal action.

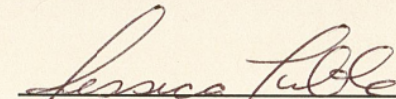
Section 6. Exception.

1. The provisions of the ordinance shall not apply to an inoperable motor vehicle, junk motor vehicle parts, or motor vehicle in an inoperable condition that are fully enclosed within a garage or covered and secured on private property or within an impound lot.
2. Any operative vehicle parked on the roadway with the permission of the property owner, or the property owner's own vehicle is acceptable.
 - a. The vehicle must have current tags.
 - b. The vehicle must be able to move under its own power.
 - c. If a vehicle is damaged and stored on the street, a written plan to fix the issue must be presented and followed upon request. The village may grant an extension to the plan of action once.
 - i. If the plan isn't followed, and/or the one extension isn't met with satisfactory actions. The vehicle will be deemed abandoned and subject to actions laid out in this ordinance.

Section 7. Penalty.

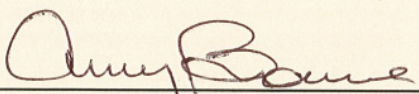
Whoever violates any provision of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a 4th Degree misdemeanor punishable by up to \$200.00 fine for each offense and shall be assessed any cost incurred by the Village of West Lafayette in disposing of such motor vehicle, junk motor vehicle, including boats, and motor homes, junk motor vehicle parts, or motor vehicles in an inoperable condition. Each day that a violation of this Ordinance continues constitutes a separate offense and each violating vehicle, boat, or motor home, or part, thereof, constitutes a separate offense.

PASSED IN COUNCIL THIS 24th day of February, 2025.



Jessica Tubbs, Mayor

ATTEST:



Amy Bourne, Fiscal Officer