

**CITY OF FORT OGLETHORPE  
STATE OF GEORGIA**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2011-12**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE 2000-53 OF THE FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION ORDINANCE, TO FURTHER AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF FORT OGLETHORPE, GEORGIA TO PROVIDE NEW CODE SECTIONS REGARDING FIRE HYDRANTS, FALSE ALARMS, DEFINITIONS AND BURNING REGULATIONS; ORDINANCES: TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; TO PROVIDE AN ADOPTION DATE; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES ALLOWED BY LAW.**

**WHEREAS**, the duly elected governing authority of the City of Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia is authorized under Article IX, Section II, Paragraph III of the Constitution of the State of Georgia to adopt reasonable ordinances to protect and improve the public health, safety, welfare, and aesthetics of the citizens of the City of Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia; and

**WHEREAS**, the duly electing governing authority of the City of Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia is the Mayor and Council thereof; and

**WHEREAS**, the governing authority desires to amend and adopt regulations in the subject areas of fire protection, including the particular issues of fire hydrants, false alarms, burning regulations and definitions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF FORT OGLETHORPE, GEORGIA**

**Section 38-48 Fire Hydrants**

As referenced in Sec. 38-81 State minimum fire safety standards adopted, incorporated by reference; amendments. The International Fire Code (IFC) is incorporated by reference. IFC outlines fire protection systems and appliances public and private. City ordinance requires the following in addition to those requirements of the IFC.

- (a) **Fire hydrants installed in the City shall meet ANSI/AWWA C205 standards, ISO standards and have a minimum of:** one 4 1/2 in. Steamer, or pumper connection, two 2 1/2 in. Connections. All fire hydrants installed in the City shall be approved by the fire official, and the City of Fort Oglethorpe utilities department head. Fire hydrants without a pumper connection shall not be permitted. All hydrants cut off valves shall be accessible and readily identified. Hydrant cut off valves shall be located within a 3 ft. radius of the fire hydrant it serves unless otherwise authorized by the fire official, or City of Fort Oglethorpe utilities department head.

- (b) **Water Supply:** Adequate water supply to meet a minimum Needed Fire Flow (NFF) as defined by ISO shall be provided for all buildings constructed within the City. More capacity may be required under certain circumstances by the fire official. Water mains, appliances, and fire hydrants shall be installed to provide the NFF or available water whichever is greater. All fire flow tests shall be witnessed by the fire official, or representative, prior to final approval. At no time shall a water main in a predominantly commercial area, or serving a commercial structure, be less than 8" diameter and must meet NFPA 24 standards as adopted and amended by 120.3.3. At no time shall a water main serving any other area be less than 6" in diameter. No dead end water mains shall be permitted; all water mains shall be part of a grid, or loop, system to provide for the use of more than one hydrant at a time.
- (c) **Locations of Fire Hydrants:** Approved fire hydrants shall be located every 300ft. Fire hydrants may be located every 500 ft. in those areas determined by the fire official to be predominantly residential, one and two family dwellings, only. Maximum distance from the nearest hydrant to the most remote exterior point of any building shall be 300 ft., the maximum distance may be increased to 500 ft. for those one and two family dwellings determined by the fire official to be located in a predominantly residential area. The distance shall be measured on a roadway surface meeting the fire department access requirements outlined in the IFC, with distance being added for turns and obstacles that may increase the way hose may be laid.
- (d) **Maintenance:** In addition to those requirements in the IFC, all hydrants found to be defective shall be repaired to proper working order within 36 hours of notification. If the hydrant is not repaired within the time specified the City of Fort Oglethorpe will repair the hydrant and all costs will be charged to the owner of said hydrant. The owner of said hydrant will be responsible for the maintenance and repair of hydrants, and will be charged for the repairs if done by the City of Fort Oglethorpe when a defective fire hydrant is found, when a fire hydrant is found to be out of service, and when a hydrant is fixed. Any fire hydrant not located within a public Right-of- Way or within an easement which has been deeded to the City shall be deemed private and will be the responsibility of the owner of the property where the fire hydrant is located.
- (e) **Obstruction:** It shall be unlawful for any person to obstruct or hinder the approach of the Fire Department to any fire hydrants. In order to assure access to fire hydrants, the following requirements must be met:
- (1) A minimum of thirty-six inches of clearance is required around a fire plug; and
  - (2) No person or entity shall construct any fence or other structure which would encroach the thirty-six inch minimum clearance for fire hydrants as outlined in subsection (1) of this section and no fence shall be constructed between the fire hydrant and the roadway; and
  - (3) Fire hydrants shall no be buried, caps shall be at least 12" from grade; and

- (4) No person shall allow trees, bushes or other growth upon the person's property to interfere with the approach to any fire hydrant or to encroach the thirty-six inch minimum clearance; and
- (5) A fire plug may not be painted except by an authorized agent or employee of the Fire Department of the City of Fort Oglethorpe; and
- (6) Parking of motor vehicles within 15 feet of a fire hydrant is prohibited. Parking lot lines may be required as necessary.
  
- (f) **Exception to the above shall be:** Other installations acceptable to and approved by the authority having jurisdiction.