

## CHAPTER V

### PUBLIC PEACE AND GOOD ORDER

#### 5.01 VEHICLE ABANDONMENT

(1) **Vehicle Definition.** "Vehicle" means every device in, upon or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway, except railroad trains.

(2) **Abandonment.** No person shall leave unattended any vehicle on any public highway or private or public property for which time and under such circumstances as to cause the vehicle to reasonably appear to have been abandoned. Whenever any vehicle has been left unattended for twenty-four hours on private property without the permission of the property owner and on public highway or property without the permission of the Town Supervisors, the vehicle is deemed abandoned and constitutes a public nuisance.

(3) **Removal, Impounding, and/or Disposal.** (a) Any vehicle in violation of this ordinance shall be impounded until lawfully claimed or disposed of. Upon determination that a vehicle is in violation of this ordinance, the Town Supervisors shall cause the vehicle to be removed to a suitable place of impoundment. Upon removal the Town Supervisors shall notify the Outagamie County Sheriff's Department of the abandonment and of the location of the impounded vehicle.

(b) Any abandoned vehicle which is determined by the Town Supervisors to have a value in excess of \$100.00 shall be retained in storage for a period of fourteen days after certified mail notice or personal service notice has been sent or given the owner and lienholders of record to permit reclamation of the vehicle after payment of accrued charges to the Town Treasurer before the vehicle can be reclaimed. The owner of any abandoned vehicle except a stolen vehicle is responsible for the abandonment and all costs of impounding and disposing of the vehicle. If the vehicle is not reclaimed in the fourteen day period, the Town Supervisors may dispose of it by sale.

(c) Any abandoned vehicle determined by the Town Supervisors to have a value less than \$100.00 may be disposed of by direct sale to a licensed salvage dealer upon determination that the vehicle is not reported stolen. If the Town Supervisors determine that the cost of towing and storage charges for the impoundment would exceed the value of the vehicle, the vehicle may be junked by the Town Supervisors prior to expiration of the impoundment period upon determination that the vehicle is not wanted for evidence or other reason.

(d) Costs not recovered from the sale of a vehicle may be recovered in a civil action by the Town against the owner.