

ORDINANCE NO. 5-302

AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE AUTHORIZED EMERGENCY VEHICLES

THE CITY OF ISHPEMING ORDAINS:

Section 5-302(1). Authorized Emergency Vehicle. "Authorized emergency vehicle" means a vehicle of the Fire Department, a police vehicle, an ambulance, a privately owned motor vehicle of a volunteer or paid fireman, or a privately owned motor vehicle of a volunteer ambulance driver or a licensed ambulance driver or attendant as is authorized by the Department of State Police, and shall also include City owned and operated snow removal equipment and vehicles while in the actual process of snow removal operations.

Section 5-302(2). The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle when responding to an emergency call, but not while returning from an emergency call, or when pursuing or apprehending a person who has violated or is violating the law or is charged with or suspected of violating the law may exercise the privileges set forth in this Ordinance subject to the conditions of this Ordinance.

Section 5-302(3). The driver of an authorized emergency vehicle may do any of the following:

- (a) Park or stand, irrespective of this act.
- (b) Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation.
- (c) Exceed the prima facie speed limits so long as he or she does not endanger life or property.
- (d) Disregard regulations governing direction of movement or turning in a specified direction.

Section 5-302(4). The exemptions granted in this Ordinance to an authorized emergency vehicle apply only when the driver of the vehicle, while in motion, sounds an audible signal by bell, siren, air horn, or exhaust whistle as may be reasonably necessary, except as provided in Subsection (5) and when the vehicle is equipped with at least one (1) lighted lamp displaying a flashing, oscillating, or rotating red or blue light visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of 500 feet in a 360 degree arc unless it is not advisable to equip a police vehicle operating as an authorized emergency vehicle with a flashing, oscillating, or rotating light visible in a 360 degree arc. In those cases, a police vehicle shall display a flashing, oscillating, or rotating red or blue light visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of 500 feet to the front of the vehicle. Only police vehicles that are publicly owned shall be equipped with a flashing, oscillating, or rotating blue light that, when activated, is visible under normal atmospheric conditions from a distance of 500 feet in a 360 degree arc.

Section 5-302(5). A police vehicle shall retain the exemptions granted in this Ordinance to an authorized emergency vehicle without sounding an audible signal if the police vehicle is engaged in an emergency run in which silence is required.

Section 5-302(6). The exemptions provided for by this Ordinance apply to persons,

teams, motor vehicles, and other equipment while actually engaged in work upon the surface of a highway, but do not apply to those persons and vehicles when traveling to or from work, except as set forth in Subsection (2) above. The provisions of City Ordinances governing the size and width of vehicles do not apply to vehicles owned by public highway authorities when the vehicles are proceeding to or from work on public highways.

Section 5-302(7). This ordinance is hereby declared to be effective immediately as an emergency ordinance.

Adopted: January 8, 1997

Amended: November 6, 2002