

RESOLUTION NO.10721

Moved By Councilperson: Arnone

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN, CAMBRIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA AUTHORIZING
THE REMOVAL OF ABANDONED AND/OR UNCLAIMED VEHICLES**

WHEREAS, the City of Johnstown (City) has experienced an increasing number of abandoned and unclaimed cars and other vehicles; and,

WHEREAS, abandoned and unclaimed cars and other vehicles present many hazards to people, animals and the environment; and,

WHEREAS, the City desires to be safe and hazard free, the presence of abandoned or unclaimed vehicles presents a danger to residents and visitors; and,

WHEREAS, the City has a responsibility to make its residents and visitors safe.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the City Johnstown City Council authorizes the City Manager, acting in the capacity of the Public Safety Director or an authorized agent of same that find an abandoned or unclaimed vehicle to remove same; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the City Manager, Public Safety Director or their authorized agents are authorized and directed to take all steps to further effectuate the purpose of this resolution.

Resolution Seconded by Councilperson: Britt

Roll Call:

Mayor Janakovic Yea ☒ Nay ☐ Deputy Mayor King Yea ☒ Nay ☐

Councilperson Mock Yea ☒ Nay ☐ Councilperson Arnone Yea ☒ Nay ☐

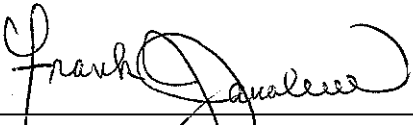
Councilperson Huchel Yea ☒ Nay ☐ Councilperson Britt Yea ☒ Nay ☐

Councilperson Clark Yea ☒ Nay ☐

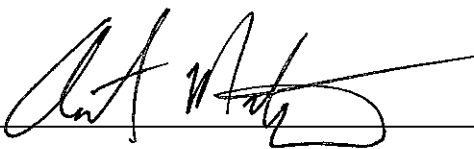
ADOPTED: October 8th, 2025

ATTEST:

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 10721 as the same adopted by the City Council of the City of Johnstown, Pennsylvania.



Frank Janakovic, Mayor or Rev. Sylvia King Dep. Mayor



Arturo Martynuska, City Manager

Abandoned, Inoperable Vehicles on Private Property

Abandoned vehicles.

No person shall park, store or leave any motorized vehicle of any kind in a wrecked, junked, stripped or abandoned condition, in a place where its presence constitutes a hazard on private property, and no owner of such vehicle, or the owner or occupant of any property, shall allow, permit or suffer the same to be left upon any privately owned property, unless the same be authorized in conjunction with a business property operated, pursuant to the zoning laws and other laws of the City. An abandoned, inoperable vehicle shall include but not be limited to; have any trash buildup that obstructs use, have flat or missing tires, have a nonfunctional motor or transmission, have missing bumpers, have missing license plates, expire registration, or cannot lawfully be operated upon public roadways or highways.

Notice to owners.

If the City Manager, Director of Public Safety or any of their authorized agents find that a violation of this article exists, the City Manager and/or the Director shall notify the owner of the property on which the motor vehicle is stored or parked, or the owner of the motor vehicle, or both, of the violation, and order the owner of such vehicle within five days thereof, and the owner of the property on which the motor vehicle is stored or parked, within 30 days thereof, to remove the motor vehicle.

Mode of notice.

Notice shall be given by personal service or by registered mail to the last known address of the violator. In the event that, on diligent search, the address of either the property owner or motor vehicle owner cannot be ascertained, the posting of such notice or copies thereof on the real property, vehicle, structure or area immediately adjacent thereto shall constitute sufficient notice.

Owner may request hearing.

Within 10 days after receipt of the notice, the party or parties affected may request a hearing with the City Manager or the Director of Public Safety by filing a written request with the Manager and/or Director. The owner of the vehicle shall, with the request, file a fee of \$50 to cover the costs involved in the hearing. After such hearing, the Director shall affirm, withdraw or modify the notice.

Failure to request hearing.

If a hearing is not requested, then the parties affected shall proceed to remove or have removed such vehicle from such property in accordance with the notice and order.

Notice of hearing.

On proper request, a hearing on the matter shall be given forthwith and where more than one party is involved it shall be the duty of the party requesting the hearing to notify all other parties affected or interested of the time and place of the hearing

Failure to act; imposition of costs.

If the violation complained of shall not have been remedied within the period as required by the order, the City shall, through its own agents, contractors and/or employees, remedy the violations by removing such vehicle and charge the costs thereof to the real property owner on whose property the vehicle is located. Such cost shall, after a proper demand and refusal or a failure to pay after 30 days, constitute a lien in such realty which shall be filed by the City Solicitor.

Emergency powers.

Nothing in this article shall prevent the Director of the Department of Public Safety or duly authorized officials, from removing from private property without notice, any attended or unattended motor vehicle, the presence of which constitutes a hazard or threat to the life, health, safety, welfare and morals of the citizens of the City which is imminently dangerous and in the opinion of the Director or authorized officials, constitutes a nuisance which gives rise to the existence of emergency conditions.