CITY OF WARD ORDINANCE NUMBER O-2025-19

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING ORDINANCE O-2002-02; ESTABLISHING A GENERAL PENALTY WHERE NO SPECIFIC PENALTY IS PROVIDED OR WHERE ADOPTED BY REFERENCE; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, ARKANSAS CODE ANNOTATED (A.C.A.) § 14-55-502, authorizes and empowers cities to prescribe penalties for all offenses in violating any ordinance of the city not exceeding the penalties prescribed for similar offenses against the state laws by the statures of Arkansas; provided that it shall be unlawful for any city to prescribe, by city ordinance, less severe penalties for all offenses in violation of any ordinance of the city than are prescribed for similar offenses against the state laws by the statues of Arkansas; and,

WHEREAS, A.C.A. 14-55-504 prescribes the maximum penalties permitted for violation of a bylaw or ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WARD, ARKANSAS THAT:

SECTION 1 – AUTHORIZATION: Pursuant to A.C.A. § 14-55-504, the following fine or penalty for violating any provisions of the City of Ward Municipal Codes or Ordinances not otherwise codified, shall be as stated hereinafter. This general penalty shall apply to all ordinances where no other fee or penalty is provided and to those ordinances which adopt this general penalty by reference.

- a. Fine or Penalty: Upon conviction in any court or competent jurisdiction, the fine or penalty shall not exceed the following:
- 1. One Thousand dollars (\$1,000) for the first offense or violation of a bylaw or ordinance.
- 2. Two Thousand dollars (\$2,000) for the second offense or violation of a bylaw or ordinance.
- 3. Three Thousand dollars (\$4,000) for the third offense or violation of a bylaw or ordinance.
- 4. Four Thousand dollars (\$4,000) for the fourth and any subsequent offence or violation of a bylaw or ordinance.
- 4. If a thing prohibited or rendered unlawful is, in its nature, continuous in respect to time, the fine and penalty for allowing the continuance thereof, in violation of the bylaw or ordinance, shall not exceed five hundred dollars (\$500) for each day that it is unlawfully continued.

- b. Statutory Penalty: Not withstanding the provisions contained within the foregoing subsection, the fine or penalty for violating any provision of the City of Ward Municipal Code or an Ordinance not yet codified shall not be less severe than any fine or penalty prescribed for similar offenses against the state laws by the statutes of the State of Arkansas.
- c. Permit or License Revocation: In addition to other fines and penalties established therein, any court of competent jurisdiction may revoke any permit issued upon violation of any provision of the City of Ward Municipal Code or Ordinance not otherwise codified.

SECTION 2 – REPEAL AND REPLACEMENT: Ward Ordinance O-2002-02 is hereby repealed and replaced by this Ordinance.

SECTION 3 – EMERGENCY CLAUSE: This Ordinance, necessary for the continued efficient delivery of public services and for the benefit, health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Ward, should be implemented immediately. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared, and this Ordinance shall be in force and effect from and after its date of passage.

SECTION 4 – SEVERABILITY: If, for any reason, any portion or portions of this ordinance shall be held invalid, such invalidity shall in no way affect the remaining portions

SECTION 5 – CODIFICATION: This Ordinance shall be codified in the Ward Municipal Code and the sections may be renumbered or re-lettered to accomplish such intention.

SAID ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED ON 1	0/21/25.
Brooke 165 Chapman 165 Hall	les_, Hefner <u>Yes_</u> , McMinn <u>Yes_</u> , Ruble <u>Yes</u>
YEAS: NAYS:	Mayor (if needed)
APPROVED:	ATTEST:
Charles Gastineau, Mayor	Krystal Rummel, City Clerk

