

CITY OF BETHLEHEM

City Council Memorandum

SUBJECT: Ordinances amending parking-related fines in Article 531 (Parking Generally) and Article 533 (Parking Meters)

TO: Members of City Council

FROM: Adam R. Waldron, President of Council

DATE: December 10, 2019

Attached are two bills for the December 17, 2019 City Council agenda. Bill 57-2019 amends Article 531, titled Parking Generally and Bill 58-2019 amends Article 533, titled Parking Meters. After conferring with the Bethlehem Parking Authority, it was determined that passage of these two bills together would be advisable for administrative purposes. Bill 57-2019 is substantively the same as the parking fine modification bill passed in Council on November 19, 2019 and is administrative housekeeping. Bill 58-2019 contains corresponding meter overtime parking fine modifications related to past discussions about meters and fines in general.



Adam R. Waldron
President of City Council

Cc: Members of Council
J. Spirk, Jr., Esq.
K. Livingston
S. Fernstrom
Mayor
E. Evans

BILL NO. 57- 2019

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART FIVE, TITLE FIVE, ARTICLE 531, SECTION 531.99 TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF FINES FOR PARKING VIOLATIONS, AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That section 531.99 (b) of the Traffic Code of the City of Bethlehem be amended to read as follows (double-underlined text denotes additions to existing Article 531, whereas strikeouts denote deletions from existing Article 531):

531.99 PENALTY

(b) Waiver; Other Parking Violations. For violation of any provision of Article 531, the owner shall pay the applicable fine designated herein.

(1) For parking within fifteen feet of a fire hydrant or ~~on~~ within twenty feet of a crosswalk, the owner of a vehicle shall pay a fine of ~~fifteen~~ twenty dollars (~~\$15~~ 20.00) within fourteen (14) days of the violation; thereafter, until a citation is issued, ~~thirty-five~~ forty dollars (~~\$35~~ 40.00); and, after the issuance of a citation, ~~fifty-five~~ sixty dollars (~~\$55~~ 60.00).

(2) For handicapped parking violations, the owner of a vehicle shall pay a fine of ~~fifty~~ one hundred dollars (~~\$50~~ 100.00) within fourteen (14) days of the violation; thereafter, until a citation is issued, ~~seventy~~ one hundred twenty dollars (~~\$70~~ 120.00); and, after the issuance of a citation, not less than ~~ninety~~ one hundred forty dollars (~~\$90~~ 140.00) nor more than two hundred fifty dollars (~~\$200~~ 250.00).

(3) For violations which involve official signs prohibiting stopping, standing or parking, the owner of a vehicle shall pay a fine of twenty dollars (\$20.00) within fourteen (14) days of the violation; thereafter, until a citation is issued, forty dollars (\$40.00); and, after the issuance of a citation, sixty dollars (\$60.00).

(4) For violations involving unattended vehicles on private property, the owner of ~~the~~ a vehicle shall pay a fine of ~~fifteen~~ twenty dollars (~~\$15~~ 20.00) within fourteen (14) days of the violation; thereafter, until a citation is issued, ~~thirty-five~~ forty dollars (~~\$35~~ 40.00); and, after the issuance of a citation, ~~fifty-five~~ sixty dollars (~~\$55~~ 60.00).

(5) For violations which involve inoperable vehicles or vehicles without current registration or inspection stickers, the owner of the vehicle shall pay a fine of ~~fifteen~~ twenty dollars (~~\$15~~ 20.00) within fourteen (14) days of the violation; thereafter, until a citation is issued, ~~thirty-five~~ forty dollars (~~\$35~~ 40.00); and, after the issuance of a citation, ~~fifty-five~~ sixty dollars (~~\$55~~ 60.00).

(6) For violation of any other provision of this Article, the owner shall pay a fine of ~~ten~~ twenty dollars (~~\$10~~ 20.00) within fourteen (14) days of the violation; and, until a citation is issued, ~~thirty~~ forty dollars (~~\$30~~ 40.00); and, after the issuance of a citation ~~forty~~ sixty dollars (~~\$40~~ 60.00).

(7) Every owner who fails to pay the applicable fine shall, upon summary conviction, be fined the applicable amount specified above and, in default of the payment of fine and costs, imprisoned for not more than ten (10) days.

(8) For each violation of Section 531.04, Parking Trucks and Trailers, the owner shall pay a fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00) within fourteen (14) days of the violation; and, thereafter until a citation is issued, seventy dollars (\$70.00); and, after the issuance of a citation; not less than ninety dollars (\$90.00) nor more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

(9) For violations of Article 531.01(a)(11) applicable to Saucon Park the owner of the vehicle shall pay a fine of thirty dollars (\$30.00) within fourteen days of the violation; thereafter, until the issuance of a citation, forty-five dollars (\$45.00); and, after the issuance of a citation, sixty-five dollars (\$65.00).

SECTION 2. All Ordinances and parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. The provisions of this Ordinance shall be severable and if any provision thereof shall be declared unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared as a legislative intent of the City that this Ordinance would have been enacted had such unconstitutional, illegal or invalid provision(s) not been included herein.

Sponsored by: _____

PASSED finally in Council on this day of , 2020.

President of Council

ATTEST:

City Clerk

This Ordinance approved this this day of , 2020.

Mayor

BILL NO. 58 - 2019

ORDINANCE NO. 2020 - _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PART FIVE, TITLE FIVE, ARTICLE 533, SECTION 533.99, TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF FINES FOR OVERTIME PARKING VIOLATIONS, AND REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That section 533.99 (b)(1) of the Traffic Code of the City of Bethlehem be amended to read as follows (double-underlined text denotes additions to existing Article 533, whereas strikeouts denote deletions from existing Article 533):

533.99 (b) Waiver; Overtime Parking Violations.

(1) For violation of any provision of Article 533, the owner shall pay the applicable fine designated. Within fourteen days of the violation, the owner shall pay a fine of ~~ten dollars (\$10.00)~~ fifteen dollars (\$15.00); thereafter, until a citation is issued, ~~thirty dollars (\$30.00)~~ thirty five dollars (\$35.00); and after the issuance of a citation, ~~fifty dollars (\$50.00)~~ fifty five dollars (\$55.00). Every owner who fails to pay the applicable fine shall, upon summary conviction, be fined fifty dollars (\$50.00) and, in default of the payment of fine and costs, imprisoned for not more than ten days.

SECTION 2. All Ordinances and parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. The provisions of this Ordinance shall be severable and if any provision thereof shall be declared unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared as a legislative intent of the City that this Ordinance would have been enacted had such unconstitutional, illegal or invalid provision(s) not been included herein.

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