

**A BY-LAW RELATING TO THE
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE
PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION OF FIRES IN GEORGETOWN
BY-LAW NUMBER 1993, #2**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF
GEORGETOWN AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Volunteer Fire Department of the Town of Georgetown shall not consist of more than twenty-five persons. From this number a Chief, Deputy Chief and up to four Captains shall be selected.
2. Every member of the Fire Department shall be a physically fit person of good reputation, of eighteen years or over and a Canadian Citizen living in the area served by the Town of Georgetown and the Georgetown Fire District.
3. The Chief and Officers of the Fire Department shall be appointed by ballot vote of the Fire Department, but such appointment must be confirmed by Town Council.
4. The annual cost of operating the Fire Department shall be included in the budgetary estimates of the Town.
5. The Councillor responsible for the Fire Department shall notify the Fire Chief at least two months prior to the date on which the estimates are to be considered and the Chief shall submit within one month his estimate for the expenditure necessary during the forthcoming year to Council, for the operation and maintenance of the Fire Department.
6. Every able-bodied person, resident of the Town, shall render all possible assistance when called upon to do so by the Chief, or the Officer of the Department in charge of fire-fighting apparatus, equipment or supplies belonging to the Fire Department.
7. The Fire Chief shall have full control in the disciplinary matters over the Fire Department.
8. The Fire Chief or senior officer present shall have full command and control at all fires. She/he shall direct all proper measures for extinguishing fires, protecting property, preserving order and enforcing the laws, ordinances and regulations respecting fires. All members of the Fire Department and all fire-fighting apparatus shall be under his/her control until dismissed or returned to the fire hall. At any fire the Fire Chief has authority by him(her)-self or through his (her) officers to require any

person present to assist in the extinguishment of such fire in such reasonable manner as she/he deems fit, or in the protection or removal of any property and to require the use of any vehicle readily accessible for the like purpose; and any person refusing and or failing to assist as so required or to allow the use of such vehicle when required shall be guilty of an infraction of this by-law.

9. The Deputy Chief shall assist the Fire Chief in all his/her duties and shall in absence of the Fire Chief, perform his/her duties and exercise his/her authority. In the absence of both the Fire Chief and Deputy Chief, the senior officer shall be acting Fire Chief.
10. The Fire Department shall meet at least once per month in order to discuss various matters pertaining to the Fire Department. The Fire Department shall also hold an annual meeting to elect officers.
11. The Fire Department shall meet at least three times per year for the purpose of practice and instruction in the use of all apparatus and in the principles of fire prevention and fire protection at the call of the Fire Chief or Deputy Chief.
12. Any member of the Fire Department who fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Fire Department, without just cause, shall automatically be discharged from the Fire Department.
13. The Officers and members of the Fire Department shall be governed by all by-laws made by Town Council or the Fire Department and any officer elected by the Fire Department or any member of the Fire Department not complying with these by-laws may be suspended or expelled by a two-third vote of the Fire Department, such suspension or expulsion must be confirmed by Council, provided however, that the Town Council may at any time remove or suspend any officer or member.
14. All vacancies which may hereafter occur among the officers elected by the Fire Department or among the members of the Fire Department may be filled at any meeting of the Fire Department and shall be the majority ballot of the members presently of the Fire Department and subject to the approval of Council.
15. The Fire Chief shall keep the Fire Department up to full strength at all times, which means that any member of the Fire Department wishing to absent him/her-self for a vacation or other legitimate reason for longer than twenty-four hours must notify the Chief in advance so that a proper substitute may be named to relieve him/her.

16. The Fire Chief shall have authority to temporarily fill any deficiency in the strength of the force.
17. The members of the Fire Department may organize for social and other purposes intended to further the interest and welfare of the Fire Department.
18. No person shall impede, interfere with or hinder any officer or fire person in the discharge of his/her duties at a fire, or responding to a fire alarm or at a practice.
19. No person shall damage any apparatus, equipment or supplies of the Fire Department and no person shall use any such apparatus, equipment or supplies, unless so authorized by the Fire Chief.
20. No person shall at any time by any means impede free and ready access to any fire hydrants, nor shall any person do anything at or near a fire whereby any equipment or apparatus of the Fire Department might reasonably be injured or made unavailable for immediate use.
21. The Fire Chief shall at every fire procure an area about the fire to be kept clear of persons and vehicles for the free operation of the Fire Department. The Fire Chief may mark off and limit by ropes or otherwise such areas of the streets and adjacent properties as she/he shall think fit and remove and keep all persons and vehicles there from, except as she/he may for special reasons admit. Any persons entering upon such areas so limited without the Chief's consent or failing or delaying upon request to remove him/her-self or his/her vehicle from such area limited or not, shall be guilty of an infraction of this by-law.
22. No person shall without reasonable excuse, (the proof whereof shall be upon the person), place or drive any vehicle so that same shall or might obstruct the approach to any fire whereof general alarm has been given of any Fire Department vehicle or police vehicle or ambulance.
23. The Fire Department or The Committee Responsible for the Fire Department, or members of the Fire Department or the Town of Georgetown shall not be liable for any claim made by person injured or property damaged during the course of the duties of the Fire Department.
24. The Town Council may, from time to time, authorize the Fire Chief to contract for the purchase of equipment, services, supplies, or materials provided that, unless the same are in the budget approved by Town Council, such purchases must be specifically APPROVED BY TOWN COUNCIL.

25. In addition to his/her general duties to exercise the powers conferred by this by-law and by any applicable legislation, to prevent and to suppress fires, the Fire Chief shall:
 - a. Keep an up-to-date inventory of all fire-fighting equipment and apparatus and report any need of repair or replacement to the Town Council;
 - b. Make a monthly report to the Town Council of the activities of the Fire Department during the preceding month including a report of all calls answered in the month and all fires; and
 - c. While on duty, attend all fires and supervise the fighting thereof.
26. The Fire Chief with the consent of the majority of the Fire Department, institute and amend rules and regulations as he considers necessary for the proper functioning of the Fire Department.
27. Any person who fails or neglects to obey any order of the Fire Chief given at or in respect of a fire or who violates any other provision of this by-law or apprehended fire is guilty of an offence of up to ONE THOUSAND (\$1,000.00) DOLLARS and, in any case not less than TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY (\$250.00) DOLLARS.
28. The Fire Department shall not respond to any fire calls outside the limits of the Town except:
 - a. To a municipality, or district, with which an agreement or other arrangement has been entered into to provide fire protection or where due payment has been made for fire protection by those in such a municipality or, district from whom the call is received; and
 - b. For assistance under the mutual aid of any other municipality or, district with which the Fire Department has a mutual aid agreement or other agreement.
29. The Fire Chief shall file all required reports with the Provincial Fire Marshal and otherwise comply with the provisions of provincial laws and regulations for which the Fire Chief is the enforcing officer.
30. The officers and fire persons shall carry out the orders of their senior officers.
31. The officers or fire person in charge of the Fire Department, at any fire, may cause any buildings, fence or other structure to be moved or torn down, if such removing or tearing down, appears to be necessary to said officers and fire persons in charge, to prevent spreading of fire.
32. The Fire Chief, when duly elected, automatically become assistant to the Fire Marshal and carries out the duty of that office, in relation to fire prevention in his/her constituency.

33.No open fires shall be permitted in the Town of Georgetown without the permission of the Fire Chief or his designate.

34.The following shall be in the form signed by members of the Fire Department.

I, the undersigned, agree and undertake, as long as I respectfully remain a member of this Fire Department, to serve the Town of Georgetown as a volunteer fire person and without pay or remuneration of any kind and to obey the orders of my superior officers and faithfully observe all the ordinances, rules and regulations of the Town, or of this Fire Department, touching my duties as such fire person.

DATED this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

Signature of Fire Person: _____.

Witness:_____.

35.No person shall operate a motor vehicle of the Fire Department unless they have in their possession a valid driver’s license to operate said vehicle.

36.The following Bylaws and amendments thereto of the Town of Georgetown are now hereby repealed:

A. BYLAW NUMBER FIVE: A Bylaw relating to Fire Wardens and Measure for the Prevention of Fires, 1961.

B. BYLAW NUMBER SEVENTEEN: A Bylaw relating to the Fire Brigade 1961.

C. BYLAW NUMBER TWENTY TWO: A Bylaw relating to the Maintenance of the Firefighting Equipment in the Town of Georgetown 1961.

37.Whereas, First Reading of this Bylaw given September 13, 1993 and Second Reading and resolution adopted September 15, 1993, this Bylaw shall come into effect September 16, 1993.

“Michael Gallant”
Signed and Sealed by Mayor,
Michael Gallant
Town of Georgetown

“Patsy Gotell”
Signed and Sealed by
Administrator, Patsy Gotell
Town of Georgetown

Filed with Minister of Provincial Affairs 27th day of September 1993.

Amendment #1: - A Bylaw Relating to the Volunteer Fire Department and the Prevention and Suppression of Fire in Georgetown Bylaw Number 1993, #2:

Be it resolved by the Town of Georgetown that Section 12, of Bylaw: Page (2) 12: Any member of the Fire Department who fails to attend **three** consecutive meeting of the Fire Department without just cause shall automatically be discharged from the Fire Department.

Be amended to read:

12. (a) Any member of the Fire Department who fails to attend **four** consecutive meetings of the Fire Department without just cause shall automatically be discharged from the Fire Department.

12. (b) A meeting for the purposes of this Bylaw shall be considered a regular monthly meeting, a special (meeting) training development session and the Annual Meeting of the Fire Department.

Be It Further Resolved, that this Amendment #1: A Bylaw Relating to the Volunteer Fire Department and the Prevention and Suppression of Fire in Georgetown, Bylaw Number 1993 #2, comes into effect when submitted to the Province of Prince Edward Island and the Minister responsible for Municipalities.

First Reading Given: Monday, May 15, 2000 – 8:45 p.m. Motion Carried
Second Reading and Resolution adopted June 19, 2000 8:20 p.m.

"Mark Gotell"
Mayor Mark Gotell
Date:

"Patsy Gotell"
Patsy Gotell, Administrator
Date:

"Sealed"
Town Seal