

RESUME

July 11, 2017

REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND "THE CODE OF THE COUNTY OF PRINCE GEORGE, VIRGINIA," TO AMEND AND RE-ENACT CHAPTER 54, TO ADD SECTION 54-32 TO ALLOW FOR REIMBURSEMENT TO THE COUNTY FOR EXPENSES INCURRED IN RESPONDING TO A TERRORISM HOAX, FAKE BOMB THREAT OR FALSE FIRE ALARM EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017.

The General Assembly approved legislation that allows the County, as of July 1, 2017, to be reimbursed for expenses related to an incident resulting in an emergency response (law-enforcement, fire-fighting, rescue and emergency medical services) for responding to a false fire alarm. Previously, the General Assembly also authorized localities to obtain reimbursement for expenses relating to an incident resulting in an emergency response (law-enforcement, fire-fighting, rescue and emergency medical services) for a terrorism hoax, or fake bomb threat. This Ordinance would enable Prince George County to be reimbursed for an emergency response (law-enforcement, fire-fighting, rescue and emergency medical services) to all three situations (terrorism hoax, fake bomb threat or false fire alarm). The Ordinance would allow the County to either bill a flat fee of two hundred and fifty dollars, or a minute by minute accounting of the actual costs incurred up to a maximum of two thousand five hundred dollars.

ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND "THE CODE OF THE COUNTY OF PRINCE GEORGE, VIRGINIA," TO AMEND AND RE-ENACT CHAPTER 54, TO ADD SECTION 54-32 TO ALLOW FOR REIMBURSEMENT TO THE COUNTY FOR EXPENSES INCURRED IN RESPONDING TO A TERRORISM HOAX, FAKE BOMB THREAT OR FALSE FIRE ALARM EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Prince George County Board of Supervisors that the Prince George County Code, Chapter 54, shall be amended and re-enacted by adding § 54-32 as follows:

Sec. 54-32. - Reimbursement of expenses incurred in responding to a terrorism hoax, fake bomb threat, or false fire alarm.

Any person who is convicted of a violation of Virginia Code § 18.2-46.6 subsection B or C, or a violation of § 18.2-212, when the violation of such section is the proximate cause of any incident resulting in an appropriate emergency response, shall be liable at the time of sentencing, or in a separate civil action, to the County, for the reasonable expense, in an amount not to exceed two thousand, five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00). In determining the "reasonable expense," the County may bill a flat fee of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) or a minute-by-minute accounting of the actual costs incurred. As used in this section, "appropriate emergency response" includes all costs of providing law-enforcement, fire-fighting, rescue and emergency medical services.

This Ordinance shall be retroactive to July 1, 2017.