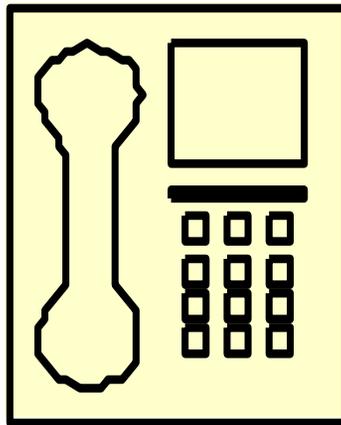


# Town of Van Buren



## 911 ADDRESSING ORDINANCE

### **Section 1. Purpose**

The purpose of this ordinance is to enhance the easy and rapid location of properties by law enforcement, fire, rescue and emergency medical service personnel in the Town of Van Buren.

### **Section 2. Authority**

The ordinance is adopted pursuant to and consistent with the Municipal Home rule Power as provided for in Article VIII, Part 2, Section of the Constitution of the State of Maine and title 30-A M.R.S.A. Section 3001.

### **Section 3. Administration**

This ordinance shall be administered by the Town of Van Buren Police Department, who is authorized to and shall assign road names and numbers to all properties, both on existing and proposed roads, in accordance with the criteria in Section 4 and 5. The Police Department shall also be responsible for maintaining the following official records of this ordinance.

- a) A Van Buren map for official use showing road names and numbers.
- b) An alphabetical list of all property owners as identified by current assessment records, by last name, showing the assigned numbers.
- c) An alphabetical list of all roads with property owners listed in order of their assigned numbers.

### **Section 4. Naming System**

All roads that serve two or more properties shall be named regardless of whether the ownership is public or private. A "**Road**" refers to a highway, road, street, avenue, lane, private drive, or similar paved, gravel or dirt thoroughfare. "**Property**" refers any property on which a more or less permanent structure has been erected or could be placed. A road name assigned by the Police Department shall not constitute or imply acceptance of the road as a public way.

The following criteria shall govern the naming system.

- a) No two roads shall be given the same name (e.g., St. Mary Rd and St. Mary St.).
- b) No two roads should have similar-sounding names (e.g., Beech Street and Peach Street).
- c) Each road shall have the name throughout its entire length.

### **Section 5. Numbering System**

Numbers shall be assigned every (50) fifty feet in the compact area and (100) one hundred feet in rural area along both sides of the road. With even numbers appearing on the right side of the road, and odd numbers appearing on the left side of the road, determined by the number origin. (The frontage interval may vary in more densely or lightly populated areas, and it should be so indicated where that particular interval applies.)

- a) All number origins shall begin from the Van Buren-Hamlin Town Line to the Van Buren- Grand Isle town line. For dead end roads, numbering shall originate at the intersection of the adjacent road and terminate at the dead end.
- b) The number assigned each structure shall be that of the numbered interval falling closest to the front door. If the front door cannot be seen from the main road, the number shall be that of the interval falling closest to the driveway of said structure.
- c) Every structure with more than one principle use or occupancy shall have a separate number for each use or occupancy. (i.e. duplexes will have two separate numbers; apartments will have one road number with an apartment number, such as 235 Maple Street, Apt2).

## **Section 6. Compliance**

All owners of structures shall, by date stipulated in Section 8, display and maintain in a conspicuous place on said structure, the assigned numbers in the following manner.

- a) Number on the Structure or Residence. Where the residence or structure is within (50) fifty feet of the edge of the road right-of-way, the assigned number shall be displayed on the front of the residence or structure near the front door or entry.
- b) Number at the Street Line. Where the residence or structure is over (50) fifty feet from the edge of the road right-of-way, the assigned number shall be displayed on a post, fence, wall, the mail box, or on some structure at the property line next to the walk or access drive to the residence or structure.
- c) Size and Color of Number. Numbers shall be displayed in a color and size approved for use by the Town of Van Buren Police Department. The numbers shall be located so that they can be visible from the road. (The minimum size shall be 6 inches, reflective, and in a contrasting color to the house color).
- d) Every person whose duty is to display the assigned number shall remove any different number that might be mistaken for, or confused with, the number assigned in conformance with this ordinance.
- e) Interior location. All residents and other occupants are requested to post the assigned number and road name next to their telephone for emergency reference.

## **Section 7. New Construction and Subdivision**

- a) New Construction. Whenever any residence or other structure is constructed or developed, it shall be the duty of the new owner to obtain an assigned number from the Police Department. This shall be done at the time of the issuance of the building permit.
- b) New Subdivision. Any prospective subdivision shall show a proposed road name and lot numbering system of the pre-application submission to the Planning Board. Approval by the Planning Board, after consultation with the Police Department, shall constitute the assignment of road names and numbers to the lots in the subdivision. On the final plan showing proposed roads, the applicant shall mark on the plan, lines or dots, in the center of the streets every (50) fifty feet compact and (100) one hundred feet rural to aid in assignment of numbers to structures subsequently constructed.

## **Section 8. Effective Date**

This ordinance shall become effective as of March 27, 2012. It shall be the duty of the CEO to notify by mail each property owner and the Post Office of a new address at least (30) thirty days before the effective date of its use. It shall be the duty of each property owner to comply with this ordinance, including the posting of new property numbers, within (30) thirty days following notification. On new structures, numbering will be installed before final inspection or when the structure is first used or occupied, whichever comes first.

## **Section 9. Enforcement**

The Police Department shall be responsible for enforcing the provision of this ordinance. No fines will be imposed for violating this ordinance. It is intended to help people in case emergency services are requested.

Should a person violate this ordinance and as a result the emergency team is unable to provide emergency response, the Town is not liable for claims and damages.

Approved; March 26, 2012

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Council Chairman

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Council Secretary

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Councilman

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Councilman

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