

Chapter 10.12

POLICE AUTHORITY TO IMPOUND VEHICLES

Sections:

10.12.010 Violation of Traffic Ordinances

10.12.010 Violation of Traffic Ordinances. When any owner or possessor of an automobile has violated any of the traffic ordinances of the City of Harlowton and in order to enforce traffic ordinances violated it becomes necessary that the possession of the automobile be taken, the procedure to be followed is as follows, to wit:

(a) Any policeman or police officer is hereby authorized to take possession of any motor vehicle owned by any person, firm or corporation that has violated, as to said vehicle, any of the traffic ordinances and provision of this city and has authority to remove such vehicle from the streets, alleys, or other public places, where the violation occurs, and to store and keep possession thereof until the owner of such vehicle appears and claims the same. The cost of towing or removing such vehicle and the costs of storing the same shall be chargeable against the vehicle and the owner thereof shall be paid by the owner of said vehicle before the same shall be released. The vehicle may be stored in a public or private place, if in a public place, the storage charges shall be the amount charged for such public storage; if stored on city property, the storage charge to be collected during the time said vehicle is in the possession of the police department shall be \$2.00 per day.

(b) Upon taking possession of any such vehicle, the police department shall notify the owner thereof that such vehicle has been impounded and is being held for the towing and storage charges. This notice shall be given to the person to whom said vehicle is licensed in accordance with the registration list furnished by the register of motor vehicles. The notice shall be given by registered mail and a charge of \$1.00 for the giving of such notice shall be collected at the time the vehicle is returned to the owner thereof.

(c) The taking of possession of a vehicle for violation of a traffic ordinance shall not prohibit the filing of a complaint for the violation of the traffic ordinance in addition to the impounding of the vehicle as hereinabove provided.

THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

CHAPTER

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The history of the United States is a story of growth and expansion. From a small collection of colonies on the eastern coast, it grew into a vast nation that stretched across the continent. The early years were marked by struggle and conflict, but the spirit of independence and self-determination prevailed. The American Revolution was a turning point, leading to the birth of a new nation. The years following were a period of rapid growth and development, as the United States expanded its territory and influence across the continent.

The American Revolution was a defining moment in the nation's history. It was a struggle for freedom and self-determination, fought against the British Empire. The revolution was a success, leading to the birth of a new nation. The years following were a period of rapid growth and development, as the United States expanded its territory and influence across the continent.

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(d) If the vehicle is not claimed and all charges paid within thirty (30) days after the police or police officer has taken possession of such vehicle an action may be commenced in the police court before the city judge or in any other court by the city attorney in the name of the City of Harlowton as plaintiff and against the name of the owner as defendant for the amount of the charges due and after judgment is obtained in favor of the city said vehicle may be levied upon and sold for the purpose of satisfying of the judgment as required by law.

(e) This ordinance is passed under the authority of the police power of the State of Montana.

(f) In the event the operator of a motor vehicle who has committed a traffic violation as set forth in the preceding section of this article is under the age of eighteen years, then any policeman may take immediate possession of the motor vehicle in the possession of said traffic violator and retain possession thereof until the same shall be released by an order from the probation officer. The chief of police or any officer of the police department designated by him shall within twenty-four hours after taking possession of such motor vehicle notify the probation officer that a motor vehicle has been taken into possession under this section. The notice to the probation officer shall describe the vehicle, give the name of said officer. The motor vehicle shall not be released except upon an order of the probation officer and all charges for towing, storage, and keeping possession of said motor vehicle shall be paid to the police department before the release of said motor vehicle.

