



**COMMON COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**LAW, BUILDINGS AND CODE ENFORCEMENT**  
**Joseph Igoe, Chair**

**DATE:** Monday, August 26, 2019

**PLACE:** City Court, Room 209 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl. City Hall

**TIME:** 5:30 PM

**TOPIC OF DISCUSSION:**

ORDINANCE NUMBER 12.62.19

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE III (TOW-TRUCK OWNERS AND OPERATORS) OF CHAPTER 353 (VEHICLES FOR HIRE) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO THE MAXIMUM TOWING CHARGE PERMITTED

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** Yes

**Council Member Flynn introduced the following:**

**ORDINANCE NUMBER 12.62.19**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE III (TOW-TRUCK OWNERS AND OPERATORS) OF CHAPTER 353 (VEHICLES FOR HIRE) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO THE MAXIMUM TOWING CHARGE PERMITTED**

**The City of Albany, in Common Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:**

**Section 1. Subsection A of section 353-63 (Maximum Charges) of the Code of the City of Albany is amended to read as follows:**

- A. All towing companies licensed pursuant to this article shall prepare a schedule of the charges for towing and storage of motor vehicles, and such schedule shall be filed with the Chief of Police. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the maximum charge for the towing of any vehicle not in excess of 10,000 pounds, which has not been authorized by the owner or operator, shall be ~~\$100~~\$200. An additional flat fee of \$25 for the dollying of a vehicle may be imposed. An additional charge of \$55 per hour for winching may be imposed. The maximum charge for the storage of towed motor vehicles shall be ~~\$35~~\$45 per day, or each part thereof, to commence after the vehicle has been on the premises for 24 hours. The aforesaid maximum rates shall also apply to the towing of motor vehicles which have become disabled upon a street or highway in the City of Albany regardless of whether said tow may have been authorized by the owner or operator of the vehicle.

**Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect immediately.**

**To:** Danielle Gillespie, City Clerk  
**From:** Jared Pellerin, Research Counsel  
**Re:** Request for Common Council Legislation  
Supporting Memorandum  
**Date:** June 7, 2019

**Ordinance Number 12.62.19**

**Title:** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE III (TOW-TRUCK OWNERS AND OPERATORS) OF CHAPTER 353 (VEHICLES FOR HIRE) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO THE MAXIMUM TOWING CHARGE PERMITTED

**General Purpose of Legislation:** To increase the maximum charge rate for towing a vehicle that has not been authorized to be towed by the owner or operator of the vehicle.

**Necessity For Legislation and Any Change To Existing Law:** The tow fee has not increased in over ten years; the last time that it was amended was in 2007. This increase is necessary to bring the tow fee closer in line with the current market rate. Currently, the maximum rate a towing company may charge for a tow that is unauthorized by the owner or operator of the vehicle to be towed is \$100.00. This legislation will amend that and increase the allowable maximum rate to \$200.00 and increase the storage fee from \$35 to \$45 dollars.

**Explanation of Deadline or Requested Time Frame For Passage:** N/A

**Specifics Of Bidding or Other Procurement Process (If Applicable):** N/A

**Specifics of Real Property Sale or Acquisition (If Applicable):** N/A

**Fiscal Impact(S):** N/A