

CITY OF SPICER

ORDINANCE 2026-02

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SPICER TO CHARGE AND COLLECT FOR EMERGENCY FIRE PROTECTION FIRE SERVICES

The City of Spicer does ordain:

SECTION ONE: PURPOSES AND INTENT

This ordinance is adopted for the purpose of authorizing the City of Spicer to charge and collect for fire service as authorized by Minn. Stat. §§ 366.011, 366.012, and 415.01.

SECTION TWO: DEFINITIONS

- (A) “Fire service” means any deployment of firefighting personnel and/or equipment to extinguish a fire or perform any preventative measure in an effort to protect equipment, life, or property in an area threatened by fire. It also includes the deployment of firefighting personnel and/or equipment to provide fire suppression, rescue, extrication, and any other services related to fire and rescue as may occasionally occur, including first responders’ services.
- (B) “Fire service charge” means the charge imposed by the City of Spicer for receiving fire service.
- (C) “Motor vehicle” means any self-propelled vehicle designed and originally manufactured to operate primarily upon public roads and highways, and not operated exclusively upon railroad tracks. It includes semi-trailers. It does not include snowmobiles, manufactured homes, all-terrain vehicles, or park trailers.
- (D) “Fire protection or service contract” means a contract between the City of Spicer and a town, township, or other city for the City of Spicer to provide fire service.
- (E) “Mutual aid agreement” means an agreement between the City of Spicer and a town, township, or other city for the City of Spicer’s fire department to provide assistance to the fire department of a town or other city.

SECTION THREE: PARTIES AFFECTED

- (A) Owners of property within the City of Spicer who receive fire service.
- (B) Anyone who receives fire service as a result of a motor vehicle accident or fire within the City of Spicer.
- (C) Owners of property in towns, townships, or cities to which the City of Spicer provides fire service pursuant to a fire protection or service contract.
- (D) Owners of property outside the City of Spicer who receive fire service.

SECTION FOUR: RATES

The rates for fire services shall be set by the City of Spicer’s fee schedule, unless otherwise set pursuant to Section Six or Seven.

SECTION FIVE: BILLING AND COLLECTION

- (A) Parties receiving fire services will be billed directly by the City of Spicer within ninety (90) days of the fire service. Additionally, if the party receiving fire services did not request services but a fire or other situation exists which, at the discretion of the fire department personnel in charge requires fire service, the party will be charged and billed. All parties will be billed whether or not the fire

service is covered by insurance. Any billable amount of the fire charge not covered by a party's insurance remains a debt of the party receiving the fire service.

- (B) Parties billed for fire service will have thirty (30) days to pay. If the fire service charge is not paid by that time, it will be considered delinquent and the City of Spicer will send a notice of delinquency.
- (C) If the fire service charge remains unpaid for thirty (30) days after this notice of delinquency is sent, the City of Spicer will use all practical and reasonable legal means to collect the fire service charge. The party receiving fire service shall be liable for all collection costs incurred by the City of Spicer including, but not limited to, reasonable attorney fees and court costs.
- (D) If the fire service charge remains unpaid for thirty (30) days after the notice of delinquency is sent, the Spicer City Council may also, on or before October 15 of each year, certify the unpaid fire service charge to the county auditor in which the recipient of the services owns real property for collection with taxes. The county auditor is responsible for remitting to the city all charges collected on behalf of the city. The City of Spicer must give the property owner notice of its intent to certify the unpaid fire service charge by September 15.
- (E) False fire alarms, smoke alarms, and other alarms will be billed as a fire call.

SECTION SIX: MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

When the City of Spicer fire department provides fire service to another town, township, or city pursuant to a Mutual Aid Agreement, the billing will be determined by the Mutual Aid Agreement.

SECTION SEVEN: BILLING PROCEDURE FOR FIRE PROTECTION OR SERVICE CONTRACTS WITH TOWNS, TOWNSHIPS, OR OTHER CITIES

When the City of Spicer fire department provides fire service to a town, township, or city pursuant to a Fire Protection or Service Contract, the billing will be determined by the Contract.

SECTION EIGHT: APPLICATION OF COLLECTIONS TO BUDGET

All collected fire charges will be city funds and used to offset the expenses of the City of Spicer fire department in providing fire services.

SECTION NINE: EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance becomes effective from and after its passage and publication.

Passed by the City Council of SPICER, Minnesota this 2nd day of June, 2026.

Approved:


Robin deCathelineau, Mayor

Attest:


Jen Beckler, City Administrator

