

ORDINANCE NO. 10 - 2008

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF STROUD, MONROE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, RE-ENACTING AND AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4 - 1998, RELATING TO ALARM SYSTEMS, PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF ALARMS AND ALARM SYSTEMS, REQUIRING THE REGISTRATION OF ALARMS AND ALARM SYSTEMS BY PROPERTY OWNERS LOCATED WITHIN STROUD TOWNSHIP, PROVIDING A FEE FOR REGISTRATION OF SAID ALARMS AND FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE ORDINANCE, AND PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES FOR NUISANCE ALARMS.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Board of Supervisors of Stroud Township, Monroe County, Pennsylvania, and it is hereby ordained and enacted by the authority of the same:

SECTION 1: DEFINITIONS.

(a) "Alarm system" shall mean any device designed or used for the detection of intrusion into a structure, building, or facility; or for alerting authorities of an attempt or commission of a crime or any emergency situation involving potential personal injury; or for alerting medical personnel of a medical emergency; or for alerting fire and emergency first responders of a fire detector, smoke detector, poisonous gas detector, or sprinkler system activation; and which is connected to an audible alarm or which is transmitted to an alarm monitoring agency used to evoke a response for emergency personnel.

(b) "Alarm" shall have the same meaning as alarm system. Alarms shall include: burglary and intrusions alarms; panic alarms; robbery and hold up alarms; medical and med-alert alarms; fire detector and smoke detector alarms; poisonous gas and carbon monoxide alarm; and alarm trouble condition activations.

(c) "Commercial alarm system" shall mean an alarm system serving more than one dwelling unit or serving one or more non-residential structures.

(d) "Emergency personnel" shall mean any person or persons engaged in providing police protection, fire protection, or emergency medical care within the Township of Stroud.

(e) "False alarm" shall mean the activation of an alarm system which evokes the response of emergency personnel due to other than the said purpose for which the alarm system is designed. A Trouble condition as defined herein shall be deemed a false alarm.

(f) "Nuisance alarm" shall mean the response of emergency personnel to more than two (2) false alarms within a consecutive twelve (12) month period.

(g) "Residential alarm system" shall mean an alarm system serving one dwelling unit.

(h) "Trouble condition" shall mean an activation of an alarm, which detects a problem with the alarm system, usually indicating maintenance or service is required.

SECTION 2: PURPOSE AND INTENT.

The Board of Supervisors finds and declares that:

(a) In order to insure the prompt dispatch and response of emergency personnel to persons and property to persons and property protected by an alarm system, the Board of Supervisors hereby establishes a permit application procedure for the registration of alarm systems.

(b) In order to administer the registration of alarm systems, the Board of Supervisors hereby establishes and provides for an alarm registration permit fee and an annual registration renewal fee. These fees shall be established by a Fee Resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors.

(c) In order to provide for the safety and welfare of the citizens of Stroud Township, and to provide for the safety and welfare of emergency response personnel, the Board of Supervisors establishes penalties for nuisance alarms.

SECTION 3: APPLICATION FOR ALARM SYSTEM REGISTRATION PERMIT.

All alarms and alarm systems shall be registered with the Township of Stroud on forms provided by the Township. A written application shall be processed stating: the name, address, and telephone number of the applicant; the physical location of the premises protected by the alarm system; a physical description of the premises; directions to the premises; a list of contact persons and telephone numbers; the type of alarm(s) on the premises; the name, address, and telephone number of the alarm installer; and the date of application or renewal of the alarm permit. In the event the name, mailing address, telephone number, or contact names and telephone numbers change, the applicant shall supply corrected information to the Township of Stroud within five (5) days of the change.

SECTION 4: ANNUAL REGISTRATION.

Every alarm registration shall be updated and renewed annually.

SECTION 5: ALARM REGISTRATION FEES.

Every applicant for an alarm registration permit shall pay a permit fee as provided in the Fee Resolution. Every alarm registrant shall also pay an annual administration fee as provided in the Fee Resolution.

SECTION 6: FALSE ALARMS CONSTITUTING A NUISANCE.

Any time emergency personnel respond to more than two (2) false alarms per location, within any consecutive twelve (12) month period, the alarm registrant shall be subject to penalties as provided in Section 7. Each subsequent false alarm exceeding the first two (2) shall be deemed a nuisance alarm and shall constitute a separate violation of this ordinance.

SECTION 7: PENALTIES AND FINES.

(a) Any person who fails to make application or register with the Township of Stroud prior to installation of an alarm system shall pay to the Township of Stroud a fine of not more than One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars, plus costs of prosecution.

(b) Any person found to allow, cause or create a nuisance alarm involving a Residential alarm system, as defined in Section 1(f) and 6 of this ordinance, shall pay the Township of Stroud a fine not more than Three Hundred (\$300.00) Dollars, plus costs of prosecution, for each violation.

(c) Any person found to allow, cause or create a nuisance alarm involving a Commercial alarm system, as defined in Section 1(c) and 6 of this ordinance, shall pay the Township of Stroud a fine not more than Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars, plus costs of prosecution, for each violation.

SECTION 8: CONFIDENTIALITY.

The information furnished and secured pursuant to the registration of alarms shall be confidential in character and shall not be subject to public inspection, and shall be so kept in order that the contents thereof shall not be known except to persons charged with the administration of this Ordinance.

SECTION 9: REPEALER.

Ordinance No. 4 - 1998 is hereby repealed in its entirety. All other ordinances or parts of ordinances or resolutions conflicting or inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 10: EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance shall take effect five (5) days after the date of its enactment.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED into an Ordinance at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Stroud Township, Monroe County, Pennsylvania, this 18th day of November, 2008.

TOWNSHIP OF STROUD


EDWARD C. CRAMER, Chairman

(TOWNSHIP SEAL)


DARYL A. EPPLEY, Vice Chairman
and Secretary


JAMES L. DECKER, Roadmaster