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ORDINANCE NO. 676

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 14-5 OF CHAPTER 14, REFUSE, TO PROVIDE A PENALTY CHARGE FOR FAILURE TO REMOVE GRASS, WEEDS AND BRUSH FROM LOTS WITHIN THE CITY; PROVIDING A PENALTY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS:

PART 1: That Article I of Chapter 14 of the City Code of the City of Abilene be, and the same is hereby amended by deleting all of Section 14-5 thereto and substituting a new Section 14-5 therefor, to read as follows:

Sec. 14-5. Same--Failure to comply with notice to remove conditions; removal by city; cost of removal by city.

After ten days have expired from the mailing of a notice as provided in sections 14-4 or 14-4(a), it shall be unlawful for the person named therein to have failed to comply therewith.

In addition to any action through the municipal court, in the event that such person for any reason fails to comply with the notice within the prescribed period, the city shall take the necessary steps to abate the condition described in such notice. Expenses incident to such action by the city which includes a service charge to cover administrative costs, plus a penalty charge of ten dollars shall be assessed against the owners of all outstanding interests in such lot or parcel. An itemized bill of such costs shall be mailed by the city accountant to each such owner if his address is known. If such bill remains unpaid for a period of thirty days after the date of the mailing of such bill, the city accountant shall file a statement of such bill and the reasons therefor with the county clerk. From the date of such filing, the city shall have a lien on the lot or parcel upon which such expenses are incurred second only to tax liens and liens for street improvements. The amount of such debt shall accumulate interest at the rate of ten per cent per annum from the date on which payment was due. For any such debt and interest, suit may be instituted and recovery and foreclosure had in the name of the city. In such suits the aforementioned statement, or certified copy thereof, shall be deemed prima facie evidence of the debt and all interest thereon.

PART 2: That any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this Chapter shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not more than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00). Each

