

Section 20. Temporary Fire Watch Patrols16-20

Section 20. Temporary Fire Watch Patrols16-20

A. Purpose: In order to avoid relocating persons from or evacuation of, any building, structure, place of business, place of habitation or vacant or abandoned building or structure which in the judgment of the Chief of the Canton Fire Department or is imminently dangerous or presents the existence of conditions likely to cause fire or explosion, the Chief of the Canton Fire Department may order the owner, agent, or manager of such a building, structure, business or place of habitation to provide a temporary fire watch patrol if the Chief of the Canton Fire Department determines a reasonable level of fire or life safety may be obtained by the implementation of such an Order.

B. Rules and Regulations: (1) The temporary fire watch personnel necessary to comply with any Order issued pursuant to subpart A of this section of the By-laws shall be specially trained in fire prevention and in the use of fire extinguishers and occupant hose lines, in sounding building fire alarms, in understanding the particular fire safety situation of public education purposes, be able to instantly communicate with fire alarm office by radio, and remain alert and undistracted during their assigned hours. (2) The owner of any building, structure, place of business, place of habitation or vacant or abandoned building or structure shall be responsible for any and all costs associated with the temporary fire watch patrol.

C. Appeal: Any person aggrieved by the issuance of an Order pursuant to subpart A of this section of the By-laws may file with the Select Board with a copy to the Chief of the Canton Fire Department of a notice of appeal within thirty days (30) after issuance of such Order. In the event of such an appeal, the Select Board shall promptly hear such appeal and may affirm or deny the appeal, or

16-20 Inserted under article 29, ATM 2007, as approved by Attorney General 146

may remand the appeal back to the Chief of the Canton Fire Department for further investigation.

D. Enforcement: If the owner fails to comply with the Order issued pursuant to subpart A of this section of the By-laws, then the Chief of the Canton Fire Department may deploy Fire Department personnel or make other arrangements to provide personnel sufficient to perform the requirements of any such Order at the expense of the property owner, who shall be billed monthly by the Fire Department for the costs thereof for so

long as the property owner continues to fail to provide their own personnel meeting the training requirements of subpart B(1) of this section of the By-laws, to perform such requirements of the Order, until the first to occur of the property owners compliance with the Order or the Order expiration or termination of the Order. In addition, if such Order issued pursuant to subpart A of this section of the By-law is not obeyed, the Chief of the Fire Department may seek a court order requiring compliance with such Order.

E. Penalties: If the billings issued by the Fire Department to the property owner for costs incurred by the town pursuant to subpart D of this section of the By-law are not reimbursed to the Town, such nonreimbursed billings shall constitute a "municipal charges lien" in accordance with G. L. Ch. 40, upon the property upon which the temporary fire watch patrol was provided.

Independent reference excerpt. Consult the official town PDF for authoritative formatting and subsequent amendments.

Source: <https://www.town.canton.ma.us/DocumentCenter/View/13507/GENERAL-BY-LAWS-2025#page=146>