

CITY OF LONE OAK, TEXAS

ORDINANCE NO. 123-2011

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LONE OAK, TEXAS, TO AUTHORIZE THE ACCEPTANCE OF CREDIT CARDS AS PAYMENT OF FEES, FINES, COURT COSTS AND OTHER CHARGES, PROVIDING FOR A PROCESSING FEE AND A SERVICE FEE, AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL COURT TO CONTRACT FOR ENCUMBRANCE OF UNAUTHORIZED CREDIT CARDS, AND PROVIDING FOR DEPOSIT OF PROCESSING FEES AND SERVICE CHARGES IN THE CITY'S MUNICIPAL COURT FUND.

WHEREAS, Chapter 132, Texas Local Government Code, authorizes the governing body of a municipality to authorize a municipal officer who collects fees, fines, court costs, and other charges to accept payment by credit card and collect a fee for processing the payment by credit card; and WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Lone Oak has determined that acceptance of credit cards is beneficial to the City and the citizens of the City in that it will provide greater flexibility in methods of payment and will promote prompt payment of fees, fines, court costs and other charges; NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONE OAK, TEXAS, THAT:

Each officer employed by the City of Lone Oak who, as part of that employment, collects fees, fines, court costs, or other charges from members of the public that are due the City is authorized to accept credit cards as payment for such fees, fines, court costs, and other charges.

For each fee, fine, court cost, or other charge that is paid by credit card, the officer collecting same shall also collect a processing fee in an amount equal to five percent of the amount of the fee, fine, court cost, or other charge, as authorized by Section 132.003(b), Texas Local Government Code.

If for any reason a payment by credit card is not honored by the credit card company on which the funds are drawn, the officer shall collect from the member of the public who attempted to pay by credit card an additional service charge in an amount equal to the fee then being charged for the collection of a check drawn on an account with insufficient funds, as authorized by Section 132.005, Texas Local Government Code. The Municipal Court shall be authorized on behalf of the City to contract with a company that issues credit cards to collect and seize credit cards issued by the company that are outdated or otherwise unauthorized. Such contract may provide that the City will charge the company a fee for the return of such credit cards, as authorized by Section 132.005, Texas Local Government Code.


Processing fees and service charges collected pursuant to this ordinance shall be deposited in the general fund of the City, as provided by Section 132.006, Texas Local Government Code.

PASSED AND APPROVED in regular session of the City Council of the City of Lone Oak, Texas on this the 16 day of May, 2011.



Neil Dent, Mayor

Attest:



Lisa Thompson, City Secretary