

ORDINANCE RECORD

No. 728—REDFIELD & COMPANY INC., OMAHA

ORDINANCE NO. 1256

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VISTA, SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA TO AMEND MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 133.01 REGARDING NUISANCES DEFINITIONS; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY ENACTED; AND TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VISTA, SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA:

SECTION 1. Municipal Code Section 133.01 is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 133.01 STAGNANT WATERS, WEEDS, AND LITTER.

(A) Lots or pieces of ground within the city or within the city's extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction shall be drained or filled so as to prevent stagnant water or any other nuisance accumulating thereon.

(B) The owner or occupant of any lot or piece of ground within the city shall keep the lot or piece of ground and the adjoining streets and alleys free of any excessive growth of weeds, grasses, or worthless vegetation. "Excessive growth" for purposes of this Section 133.01 shall include without limitation, 12 inches or more in height of weeds, grasses, or worthless vegetation.

(C) The throwing, depositing, or accumulation of litter on any lot or piece of ground within the city is prohibited, except that grass, leaves, and worthless vegetation may be used as a ground mulch or in a compost pile.

(D) It is hereby declared to be a nuisance to permit or maintain any excessive growth of weeds, grasses, or worthless vegetation on any lot or piece of ground within the city or on the adjoining streets or alleys or to litter or cause litter to be deposited or remain thereon except in proper receptacles.

(E) Any owner or occupant of a lot or piece of ground shall, upon conviction of violating this section, be guilty of an offense as provided by Nebraska Statutes.

(F) (1) The city shall, during the month of April of each year, publish or cause to be published in one or more newspapers of general circulation within the city a general notice setting forth the requirements of this section.

(2) In addition to the above general notice, notice to abate and remove such nuisance shall be given to each owner or owner's duly authorized agent and to the occupant, if any, by personal service, first class mail or certified mail. If notice is given by first-class mail, such notice shall be conspicuously marked as to its importance. Within five days after receipt of such notice, the owner or occupant of the lot or piece of ground may request a hearing with the city to appeal the decision to abate or remove a nuisance by filing a written appeal with the office of the city clerk. A hearing on the appeal shall be held within fourteen days after the filing of the appeal and shall be conducted by the City Administrator or any other appointed officer of the City from time to time designated by the City Administrator. The hearing officer shall render a decision of the appeal within five business days after the conclusion of the hearing. If the appeal fails, the city may have such work done. Within five days after receipt of such notice, if the owner or occupant of the lot or piece of ground does not request a hearing with the city or fails to comply with the order to abate and remove the nuisance, the city may have such work done. The costs and expenses of any such work shall be paid by the owner. If unpaid for two months after such work is done, the city may either:

(a) Levy and assess the costs and expenses of the work upon the lot or piece of ground so benefitted in the same manner as other special taxes for improvements are levied and assessed; or

(b) Recover in a civil action the costs and expenses of the work upon the lot or piece of ground and the adjoining streets and alleys.

(3) At all times thereafter until new growth of the following year, the city shall have the right, without providing further notice to such owner, agent, occupant, tenant or

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person in possession, charge or control of such lot or ground, to continue cutting and/or removing from such lot or ground all litter or excessive growth of weeds or grass or worthless vegetation.

(G) For purposes of this section:

(1) LITTER includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Trash, rubbish, refuse, garbage, paper, rags, and ashes;
- (b) Wood, plaster, cement, brick, or stone building rubble;
- (c) Grass, leaves, and worthless vegetation;
- (d) Offal and dead animals; and

(e) Any machine or machines, vehicle or vehicles, or parts of a machine or vehicle which have lost their identity, character, utility, or serviceability as such through deterioration, dismantling, or the ravages of time, are inoperative or unable to perform their intended functions, or are cast off, discarded, or thrown away or left as waste, wreckage, or junk; and

(2) WEEDS includes, but is not limited to, bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*), puncture vine (*Tribulus terrestris*), leafy spurge (*Euphorbia esula*), Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), perennial peppergrass (*Lepidium draba*), Russian knapweed (*Centaurea picris*), Johnson grass (*Sorghum halepense*), nodding or musk thistle, quack grass (*Agropyron repens*), perennial sow thistle (*Sonchus arvensis*), horse nettle (*Solanum carolinense*), bull thistle (*Cirsium lanceolatum*), buckthorn (*Rhamnus sp.*) (toun), hemp plant (*Cannabis sativa*), and ragweed (*Ambrosiaceae*).

('79 Code, § 6-328) (Ord. 147, passed - -; Am. Ord. 450, passed 9-15-87; Am. Ord. 547, passed 6-16-92; Am. Ord. 938, passed 8-17-04) Penalty, see § 10.99

Statutory reference:

Municipal authority; notice and hearing requirements, see Neb. RS 16-230
Additional authority to regulate nuisances, see Neb. RS 18-1720

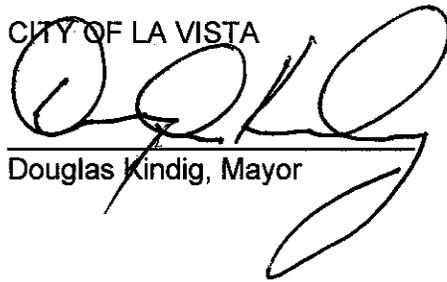
SECTION 2. Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances. Section 31.21as originally enacted, and all ordinances and parts of ordinances as previously enacted that are in conflict with this ordinance or any part hereof, are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. Severability Clause. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The Mayor and City Council hereby declare that it would have passed this Ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

SECTION 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in force and take effect from and after passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 7TH DAY OF JULY, 2015.

CITY OF LA VISTA


Douglas Kindig, Mayor

ATTEST:



Pamela A. Bueth, CMC
City Clerk