



JARED J. MILLS
Police Chief

AUGUSTA POLICE DEPARTMENT

33 Union Street
Augusta, Maine
04330



KEVIN D. LULLY
Deputy Chief

January 4, 2019

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Augusta Police Department is in the process of reviewing its towing rotation list per City Ordinance Sec. 270-40 to 270-44. At this time we invite those who are already on our rotation list or those who have expressed interest in being on our rotation list to contact the Augusta Police Department. The list is limited to ten (10) companies and the Chief's selection of these companies will be based on past performance and proximity to the city in order to provide the most efficient service.

For those companies interested in participating in the wrecker rotation, please send a letter of intent/interest to the Chief of Police, at the Augusta Police Department, 33 Union Street Augusta, Maine 04330.

In order to be considered for the towing list, companies shall provide towing/wrecker service commercial liability insurance covering the operation of the business, equipment or other vehicles for any bodily injury or property damage. This policy shall be in the minimum amount of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000.00) combined single limit for personal injury and property damage, or such amount as may be required by the State of Maine from time to time, whichever amount shall be greater.

Further information regarding rules and regulations of the tow rotation can be found in our City Ordinance sections governing the Cities "Towing Policy" which I have attached to this letter. All letters of intent/interest must be received by February 1, 2019 at 2:00 pm.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin D. Lully".

Kevin D. Lully
Deputy Chief

Part 2. Towing; Violations and Impoundment

[Amended 4-14-1986 by Ord. No. 360; 11-20-1989 by Ord. No. 246; 1-6-1992 by Ord. No. 244; 8-2-1999 by Ord. No. 169]

§ 270-40. Towing policy.

It shall be the policy of the City of Augusta to ensure that at any time the Augusta Police Department is required to contract directly for vehicle towing services, or refer a needy citizen to such towing services, the Police Department shall do so in an economical and equitable manner. Though sensitive to the business concerns of area towing enterprises, the City policy regarding this matter shall be influenced primarily by the need to promote public safety through a quick and efficient removal of obstructions to the public way and by a vigilant effort to prevent the general public from being victimized by unfair business practices, particularly where the City is involved as a referral agent for private tow operators. This order shall pertain to public ways, City property and property owned or authorized for policing by the Augusta Parking District and shall not be utilized for the removal of vehicles from private property of individuals.

§ 270-41. Towing rotation.

A. The Police Department shall establish a rotation order by which tow operators will be contacted whenever a vehicle must be removed from a public way, City property, or private property as a result of a motor vehicle accident or other police action. The Police Department shall maintain a log in the communication center and upon request for a tow service, record the name of the tow operator, whether the request for tow was in rotation, vehicle owner's request, or City bid, and also record the unavailability or refusal of a tow operator to respond. The Police Department shall maintain a list of qualified tow operators, and this list shall not exceed 10 operators so that no undue administrative burden shall be placed upon the Police Department. This list shall be reviewed in January of each year to enable the Police Department to add or remove tow operators. In the event that more than 10 qualified operators apply for inclusion on the towing list, the Chief of Police shall determine, by lot, which companies shall be included for the year. Should a vehicle operator request a tow operator that is not on the police tow list, the police officer on scene will determine whether the request will be honored, taking into account the time it will take for the requested tow operator to arrive and remove the vehicle. In all circumstances, the removal of a vehicle from traffic by the quickest and most efficient means is essential.

B. The Police Department shall in times of extreme emergency or disaster deviate from this towing policy rotation order when it is in the best interest of public safety to do so.

§ 270-42. Schedule of towing, storage and publication fees.

[Amended 10-17-2005 by Ord. No. 165]

A. The schedule of charges for service calls, towing or removing vehicles and notices of such action as required by this Part 2 shall not exceed the schedule of charges which shall be set from time to time and a schedule of such charges shall include service calls day or night, tow fee day or night, motor vehicle accident tow day or night, use of which and mileage from accident scene to vehicle destination.

B. Tow operators accepting City referrals under this Part 2 shall agree to charge reasonable fees that will not exceed the following per vehicle:

(1) Service calls: described as providing gas, jump start, vehicle lockout, etc.

(a) 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.: \$50.

(b) 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.: \$60.

(2) Tow: described as any time a vehicle needs to be towed which has become disabled, parked in violation of City ordinance or a police action has required the vehicle to be towed:

(a) 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.: \$65.

(b) 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.: \$75.

(3) Motor vehicle accidents: described as any time a vehicle is towed from the scene of an accident involving a vehicle; tow service required to move all debris and fluids within reason.

(a) 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.: \$90.

(b) 8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.: \$100.

(4) Use of winch: described as having to winch a vehicle out of a ditch and back onto the roadway or other location, or turning over an overturned vehicle. Use of winch is not to be charged when a vehicle is winched onto a flatbed of a tow truck: \$75 per hour, to be computed in half-hour increments beyond the first hour, with the full first-hour charge due for any portion thereof.

(5) Mileage from accident scene: described as traveling the distance from the scene of an accident to the location where the vehicle will be off-loaded from the tow truck:

(a) From the accident scene to the offload destination: minimum charge of \$3 per mile.

(b) If less than a mile: \$3.

(6) Storage: location of where towed vehicle was brought awaiting retrieval by owner or other responsible party: \$25 per day, or any portion thereof, after the first 24 hours of vehicle being towed to storage lot.

§ 270-43. Annual bids for towing and storage charges.

A. The City Manager shall annually request sealed bids for towing and storage charges. Such bids shall be for the towing of municipal vehicles, vehicles in violation of snow removal operations, and any other vehicle so ordered by the Police Department caused by a police action, vehicles removed from City property or the property of the Augusta Parking District.

B. The tow company that is awarded the annual towing bid shall establish a storage facility within the confines of the City of Augusta that will enable owners of vehicles towed to retrieve their motor vehicles during regular business hours. The storage facility location shall be recorded on the City bid form indicating that the tow company is in compliance prior to any award of bid by the City.

C. In the event that the tow company that has been awarded the annual towing bid is removed from the Police Department towing list for violating Article III, Part 2, Towing, Violations and Impoundment, of the Revised Code of Ordinances, the City shall award the remainder of the municipal bid time period to the tow company having submitted a reasonable bid at the time of the last bid opening.

§ 270-44. Responsibility of party towing and storing vehicles.

[Amended 10-17-2005 by Ord. No. 166]

A. Parties towing vehicles and storing same in accordance with the provisions of this Part 2 shall assume full responsibility for damages to vehicles while in transit or storage. Tow operators accepting City referrals shall remove vehicle debris and fluids within reason from the public way or in any other place at traffic accident scenes as part of the removal process of the vehicle being towed. Tow operators requesting to be included on the Police Department towing rotation order shall obtain all required insurance and show proof of same on demand of the Chief of Police. Such insurance shall include but not be limited to vehicle, liability, and property insurance.

B. Tow operators shall conduct themselves in a professional manner when engaged in contact with the public at accident scenes and other places after having been requested by the Police Department to provide a service to the public.

C. Tow operators shall conduct themselves in such a manner as to respect all other tow operators and the right of their competitors to do business. "Jumping the call" of a competing tow operator shall be grounds for immediate removal from the towing list of the Police Department.

D. Tow operators shall provide towing/wrecker service commercial liability insurance covering the operation of the business, equipment or other vehicles for any bodily injury or property damage. This policy shall be in the minimum amount of \$300,000 combined single limit for personal injury and property damage, or such amount as may be required by the State of Maine from time to time, whichever amount shall be greater.

E. Road service liability coverage for the lifting, hoisting and towing of vehicles must be included in the tow operator's legal liability policy.

F. The lapsing or cancellation of any insurance policy as required herein above shall result in immediate removal from the towing list of the Police Department.

WRECKER ROTATION LIST-2018 (updated)

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|---|----------------------|
| 1. Statewide Towing (formerly Mainely Towing) | 623-0494 / 446-1977 |
| 2. Ready Road Service (Augusta) | 626-9076 / 818- 0567 |
| 3 (AAA) – KDT (Augusta) | 622-4800 / 623-8831 |
| 4. (Bid)(AAA)- Mike’s Towing (Chelsea) | 592-8801 |
| 5. Pine State Towing (Augusta) | 582-1939 / 626-9076 |
| 6. Carroll’s Towing (Windsor) | 619-4869 |
| 7. Tracy’s Towing (Sidney) | 441-2841 / 547-4451 |
| 8. Hudson’s Towing (Windsor) | 619-4869 |
| 9. (AAA) - A/C Towing (West Gardiner & Chelsea) | 582-0003 |
| 10. Fast Lane Towing and Transport | 207-213-9707 |

OTHER LOCAL WRECKERS

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|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| AAA | 780-6832 / 1-800-222-3665 |
| (AAA) - Dick’s Towing (Randolph) | 582-2165 |
| (AAA) Freddie’s Towing (Vassalboro) | 923-9419 |
| Kennerson’s Towing (West Gardiner) | 582-9295 |
| Sidney Towing (Sidney) | 547-3592 |
| White’s Auto (Chelsea) | 582-2520 / 242-2626 |
| No Preference Towing (Readfield) | *82 685-8187 / 458-9495 |