**TOWN OF WALDO**

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**MAY 27, 2025 PUBLIC HEARING**

**TOWN OF WALDO FIRE DEPARTMENT ORDINANCE**

**Section 1. Title.**

This ordinance shall be known as the Town of Waldo Fire Department Ordinance.

**Section 2. Purpose.**

The purpose of this ordinance is to establish a Municipal Fire Department for the Town of Waldo, and to define the powers and duties of the chief and members of the Department. An additional purpose of this ordinance is to provide the maximum legal protection available to the Fire Chief and municipal firefighters, and to best protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the Town of Waldo.

# Section 3. Establishment.

Pursuant to Art. VTII, pt. 2, *§* I of the Maine Constitution, 30-A M.R.S. § 3001 and§ 3153 *et seq.,* the Town of Waldo hereby establishes a Municipal Fire Department.

# Section 4. Definitions.

**Municipal Fire Department:** The organized firefighting unit established pursuant to this Ordinance.

**Municipal Firefighter**: An active member, whether full-time, part-time, or on call of the Town of Waldo fire department, who performs the duties of the Town fire department identified in Section 5, or an individual who receives compensation from the municipality for performing said duties, and who is at least 18 years of age.

# Section 5. Duties.

The Town of Waldo Municipal Fire Department shall prevent and extinguish fires, provide firefighting protection, and provide emergency services by responding to and managing other public safety emergencies, including but not limited to medical emergencies, hazardous materials incidents, or natural or man-made disasters, within the Town of Waldo and elsewhere as provided by mutual aid or other contractual agreements approved by the Town of Waldo Board of Selectmen or by the Town of Waldo legislative body at a Town meeting.

**Section 6. Fire Chief.**

1. Appointment. The Fire Chief shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen for a term of 3 years.
2. Compensation. The compensation of the Fire Chief shall be established by the Board of Selectmen.
3. Powers and duties. The Fire Chief shall have the powers and duties set forth in Title 30-A M.R.S. § 3 l 53, except that administrative rules and regulations promulgated by the Fire Chief shall not be effective until approved by the municipal officers.
4. Reports. The Fire Chief shall submit a written or verbal bi-monthly report on the activities of the Department to the Board of Selectmen, shall submit a written annual report for the annual Town of Waldo Town meeting, and shall discharge such other duties as may be required by the Board of Selectmen.

# Section 7. Firefighters.

Municipal firefighters shall have the powers and duties set forth in Title 30-A M.R.S. § 3151 *et seq.,* and as set forth in any administrative rules and regulations adopted pursuant to section 6(C) above.

# Section 8. Deputy Fire Chief.

A Deputy Fire Chief shall be appointed by the Fire Chief, to act with full authority in the absence of the Fire Chief, and shall have responsibilities as set forth in any administrative rules and regulations adopted pursuant to section 6(C) above.

# Section 9. Other officers.

The Fire Chief may appoint other officers as the Fire Chief deems necessary.

# Section 10. Severability.

The invalidity of any portion of this ordinance shall not invalidate any other part thereof.

# Section 11. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall be effective upon the date of its adoption by the Town of Waldo legislative body. Upon the adoption of this ordinance, any other ordinance adopted by the Town of Waldo legislative body prior to the effective date of this ordinance shall be rendered null and void.