

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-20

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING IRONDALE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO CHARGE A FEE-FOR-SERVICE FOR COST RECOVERY OF NON-EMERGENT LIFT ASSIST RESPONSES TO ALABAMA STATE LICENSED ASSISTED LIVING, RESIDENTIAL CARE AND NURSING FACILITIES WITHIN THE CITY OF IRONDALE

WHEREAS, the Irondale Fire Department provides lift assist services to skilled nursing and independent living facilities (the “Facilities”) located in the City when patients or residents in these facilities require assistance with being lifted and moved (“Lift Assist Services” or “Services”) and the facility is otherwise unable to provide this assistance;

WHEREAS, due to the ongoing and increased frequency of calls received by the City for Lift Assist Services, the City Council has determined that it is fair and reasonable to assess a fee to the Facilities when providing Lift Assist Services for persons in these Facilities to set off a part of the cost incurred by the City’s Fire Department for providing these Services to the Facilities to assist them in the care of their patients or residents;

WHEREAS, this fee should be paid by the facility and not the patient or resident; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that it is in the best interest of the public’s health, safety and welfare that the City to establish a fee for providing Lift Assist Services and to establish the parameters for assessing, collecting, and reviewing this fee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Irondale, in regular meeting duly assembled, a quorum being present, as follows:

Section 1. MODIFICATION OF CHAPTER 6, FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION.

Chapter 6, Article I of the *Municipal Code of the City of Irondale* is hereby amended to establish a new Section 6-8 *Lift Assist Response* which shall read as follows:

Sec. 6-8. – Lift Assist Response

(a) Definitions

For the purpose of this section, the following words, terms and phrases shall have the following meanings:

Assisted-living facility means a residential setting that provides assisted-living services for remuneration to two (2) or more persons who reside in such residential setting and are not related to the owner of the residential setting. Assisted-living facility does not include a home, an apartment, or a facility in which casual care is provided at irregular intervals. A licensed facility in which room, board, meals, laundry, and assistance with personal care and other services are provided for not less than 24 hours in any week

to a minimum of two ambulatory adults not related by blood or marriage to the owner and/or administrator.

Nursing care facility means a facility where medical care, nursing care, rehabilitation, or related services and associated treatment are provided for a period of more than twenty-four (24) consecutive hours to persons residing at such facility who are ill, non-acutely ill, injured, or disabled.

Lift assist means a response by the Irondale Fire Department to assist in physically moving a person who does not require emergency medical treatment in an assisted-living facility and/or nursing care facility.

Emergency medical treatment means treatment beyond an initial assessment routinely performed by the Irondale Fire Department. If deemed the patient will require medical attention and/or transport to an emergency department, no lift assist fee as provided in this section will be charged.

(b) Lift assist fee, records, billing and collection.

- (1) When a lift assist is provided by the Irondale Fire Department to any person in or on the grounds of an assisted-living facility or a nursing care facility, the respective assisted-living facility or nursing care facility shall be charged a fee as provided in this section for the lift assist services.
- (2) The fee for providing a lift assist shall be \$350.00 per lift assist incident.
- (3) The Fire Department shall maintain records in connection with lift assist services provided pursuant to this section and shall oversee the billing and collection of such amounts due and owing.

Section 2. ORDINANCES REPEALED. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 3. SEVERABILITY. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The City of Irondale hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance, and each section, subsection, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses and phrases be declared unconstitutional.

Section 4. LEGAL RIGHTS NOT IMPAIRED. Nothing in this Ordinance or in the Code hereby adopted shall be construed to affect any suit or proceeding impending in any court, or any rights acquired, or liability incurred, or any cause or causes of action acquired or existing, under

any act or ordinance hereby repealed as cited in this Ordinance; nor shall any just or legal right or remedy of any character be lost, impaired or affected by this Ordinance.


Section 5. ORDINANCE CUMULATIVE; COMPATIBILITY WITH OTHER REGULATIONS. This Ordinance shall not be construed to modify or to repeal any other ordinance, rule, regulation, or other provision of law except as set forth herein. The requirements of this Ordinance are in addition to and cumulative to the requirements of any other ordinance, rule, regulation, or other provision of law, and where any provision of this ordinance imposes restrictions different from those imposed by any other ordinance, rule, regulation, or other provision of law, whichever provision is more restrictive or imposes higher protective standard for human health or the environment shall control.

Section 6. PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCE. The City Clerk of the City of Irondale is hereby ordered and directed to cause this ordinance to be published and that a copy of this Ordinance be entered upon the minutes of the meeting of the City Council.

Section 7. EFFECTIVE DATE OF ORDINANCE. That this Ordinance and the rules, regulations, provisions, requirements, orders and matters established and adopted hereby shall be in full force and effect upon adoption and shall continue in full force and effect from month to month and year to year from its effective date until repealed.

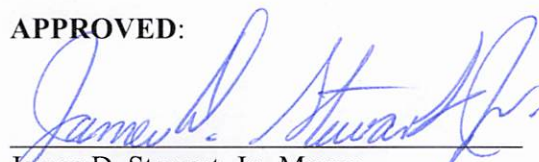
THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, that the City Council of the City of Irondale does hereby ordain, resolve, and enact the foregoing Ordinance for the City of Irondale.

Done this the 20th day of May, 2026.



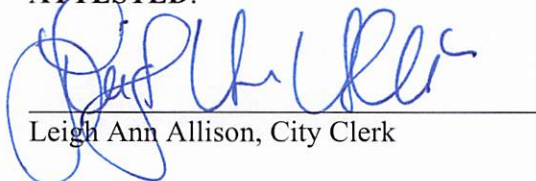
David Spivey, City Council President

APPROVED:



James D. Stewart, Jr., Mayor

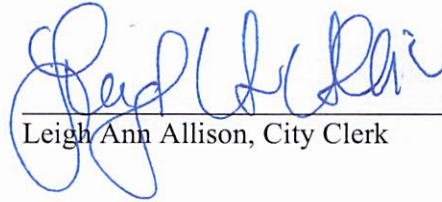
ATTESTED:



Leigh Ann Allison, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Leigh Ann Allison, City Clerk of the City of Irondale, Alabama, hereby certify that the above to be a true and correct copy of an ordinance adopted by the City Council of the City of Irondale at its regular meeting held on the 20th day of May, 2026, as same appears in the minutes of record of said meeting.



Leigh Ann Allison, City Clerk