

ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY CODE

Chapter 24

STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND PUBLIC PLACES

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ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Secs. 24-1--24-20. Reserved.

ARTICLE II. COURTHOUSE GROUNDS

DIVISION 1. IN GENERAL

Sec. 24-21. Trees in courthouse yard.

The clerk of the circuit court and commonwealth attorney of this county shall have the large trees in the courthouse yard trimmed or every alternate tree cut down, as in their opinion may be necessary for the protection and growth of the young trees in the yard.

Sec. 24-22. Ball playing and other nuisances prohibited.

Ball playing and any other nuisances are prohibited in the courthouse yard of this county.

Sec. 24-23. Selling merchandise, etc. prohibited.

All parties are prohibited from using the courthouse yard for the purpose of selling, exhibiting or giving away merchandise or articles of any kind, and for the exhibition of machinery implements, articles or patents of any kind whether for the purpose of selling or not, except sales of real estate or property of any kind under decrees of court, levy or sales of property of any kind which is to be done by any officer of the law as provided by law and except for other public events and festivals approved by the County.

Sec. 24-24. Public speeches, etc. prohibited without permission.

There shall be no public speeches, gatherings or demonstrations by any person or group of persons in the courthouse, on the steps of the courthouse or on the grounds of the courthouse without the specific permission of the board of supervisors, who designate the county

administrator the authority to give or not to give permission, or the judge of the circuit court to give or not to give permission. Any refusal by the county administrator can be appealed to the board of supervisors.

Secs. 24-25--24-29. Reserved.

DIVISION 2. FEES FOR CRIMINAL, TRAFFIC AND CIVIL CASES

Sec. 24-30. Purpose.

In accordance with Code of Virginia, §17.1-281, this division is established for the purpose of assessing fees incident to criminal, traffic and civil cases in the county for courthouse construction, renovation or maintenance.

(Ord. of 4-22-91, §1; Ord. of 5-11-92, §1, Amended by Ord. of 11-23-09)

Sec. 24-31. Assessments.

(a) The county board of supervisors hereby levies a fee of two dollars (\$2.00) as part of the costs in (i) each civil action filed in the district and circuit courts for the county and (ii) each criminal or traffic case in the district or circuit court of the county in which the defendant is charged with a violation of any statute or ordinance beginning July 1, 1992. This assessment, referred to as the 'courthouse maintenance fee,' shall be collected by the clerk of the court in which the action is filed and remitted to the county treasurer to be held by the treasurer subject to disbursements by the board of supervisors for the construction, renovation, or maintenance of the courthouse or jail and court-related facilities and to defray increases in the cost of heating, cooling, electricity, and ordinary maintenance of such facilities.

(Ord. of 4-22-91, §2; Ord. of 5-11-92, §2; Amended by Ord. of 11-23-09, effective for the circuit court on December 1, 2009, and for the district courts on February 1, 2010)

(b) Effective December 1, 2009, in accordance with §17.1-281(C) of the Code of Virginia (1950, as amended), there is hereby imposed an assessment of three dollars (\$3.00) as part of the costs in (i) each civil action filed in the district or circuit courts of the county and (ii) each criminal or traffic case in the district or circuit court of the county in which the defendant is charged with a violation of any statute or ordinance; provided, however, that such assessment shall not be assessed in any civil action if the amount in controversy is \$500.00 or less. This assessment, referred to as the 'courthouse construction fee,' shall be collected by the clerk of the court in which the action is filed and remitted to the county treasurer to be held by the treasurer subject to disbursements by the board of supervisors solely for the construction, reconstruction, renovation of, or adaptive re-use of a structure for the courthouse.

(Ord. of 11-23-09, effective for the circuit court on December 1, 2009, and for the district courts on February 1, 2010)

(c) The fees imposed in this section shall be collected from any defendant by the clerk of the court in which the action is pending in all cases where costs are assessed.

(Amended by Ord. of 11-23-09, effective for the circuit court on December 1, 2009, and for the district courts on February 1, 2010)

(d) The fees imposed in this section shall be cumulative and shall be in addition to any other fees prescribed by law.
(Ord. of 11-23-09, effective for the circuit court on December 1, 2009, and for the district courts on February 1, 2010)

Secs. 24-32--24-35. Reserved.

ARTICLE III. STREETS AND SIDEWALKS

DIVISION 1. GENERALLY

Secs. 24-36--24-50. Reserved.

DIVISION 2. STREET LIGHTING

Sec. 24-51. Definitions.

For the purposes of this division, communities include: (1) communities as named on county highway maps, wherein there are clustered twelve (12) or more residences and businesses within a radius of one-half (1/2) mile, and (2) subdivisions, wherein there are twelve (12) or more residences within a radius of one-fourth (1/4) mile. Incorporated towns are not communities for the purposes of this division.

Cross reference(s)--Definitions and rules of construction, §1-2.

Sec. 24-52. Village light viewing committee.

A village light viewing committee shall make an initial approval of a community for street light service. The chairman of the board of supervisors shall appoint the committee. The committee shall include the sheriff, representative of local utility company, two (2) members of the board of supervisors, and the executive secretary.

Cross reference(s)--Boards, committees, commissions, etc., §2-111 et seq.

Sec. 24-53. Approval by supervisors.

Final approval of any community for street light service shall be by the Rockbridge County Board of Supervisors upon the recommendation of the village light viewing committee.

Sec. 24-54. Location of lights.

The committee shall have sole responsibility for approval of all locations or changes in location of individual lights in approved communities. The following criteria must be met for approval of location for a light:

- (1) The light will improve safety for pedestrians;

- (2) The light will help control vandalism and theft;
- (3) The number of people served will be great enough for the light to constitute a public service.

In addition, lights shall be placed far enough apart so that they do not overlap. They may not however, be so far apart that they do not provide adequate light to serve the residents of the area.

Sec. 24-55. Payment of electricity costs.

The county will pay the electricity of any approved light not in excess of three thousand three hundred (3,300) lumens.