

**TOWNSHIP OF MEDFORD
ORDINANCE 2025-14**

**ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 136 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE
ENTITLED “TOWING OF VEHICLES”**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. § 40:48-2.54 requires municipalities to adopt an ordinance setting forth a model schedule of towing and storage services which the municipality requires and the rates therefore; and

WHEREAS, when towing is done by the Township without the consent of the owners of the vehicles, the rates shall be based on the usual, customary and reasonable rates of operators towing and storing motor vehicles in the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Township previously enacted Ordinance 2012-11, enacting current Chapter 136 of the Township Code, entitled “Towing of Vehicles”; and

WHEREAS, since the enactment of Ordinance 2012-11, other amendments to Chapter 136 have been introduced and adopted; and

WHEREAS, as a result of changes and interpretations of law at the State level, the Police Department and Township Administration have reviewed Chapter 136 as it exists today and recommend additional amendments thereto; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council for the Township of Medford deems it to be in the best interests of its residents to adopt such recommendations.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of Medford, in the County of Burlington and State of New Jersey, that Chapter 136 of the Medford Township Code is hereby amended as follows:

SECTION ONE: Chapter 136 is hereby amended to state:

§ 136-3 Standards for Towers, Equipment, Personnel, Storage; Miscellaneous

A. Standards for Tower Personnel

(4) Background checks will be performed internally by the Medford Police Department as well as through the New Jersey State Police through a fingerprint system. Applicants will be required to use forms (provided from the police department and specific to each individual listed on the application) to obtain fingerprint background checks for new employees through the then current State vendor. All costs associated with the fingerprint background check will be borne by the applicant. Current employees that have been previously fingerprinted for this ordinance’s background check by this tower shall submit a New Jersey SBI online 212B form completed within 30 days of the application. All costs associated with the SBI 212B form background check will be borne by the applicant.

D. Legal Requirements

(2) (2) The duty tow schedule shall be distributed to the contracted tow companies at the start of each calendar year. The duty towing schedule is a fourteen (14) day duration of duty towing beginning at 0700 hours of the first day and ending at 0659 hours of the last day. If a contracted tow company is contacted by Burlington County Central Communications in error when they are not the on-duty tow per the schedule they shall inform Burlington County Central that they are not the duty tow and relinquish the request. If the contracted tower fails to inform Burlington County Central Communications that they are not the duty tow and takes the tow, they shall be in violation of this section and are subject to the penalties described herein.

§ 71-28 Fees Under Chapter 136, Towing of Vehicles

C. Rate schedules.

(2) Charges and fees. The charges, fees and rates for vehicles to be towed and stored shall be categorized in the following manner.[1] There will be no mileage charge for vehicles towed.

- (a) Refer to Schedule A for towing service charges, flat fee.
- (b) Refer to Schedule B for winching service charges (per each half-hour of winching).
- (c) Refer to Schedule C for administrative, storage and general charges.
- (d) Refer to Schedule D for miscellaneous charges.

Schedule A: Towing Service Charge -Flat Fee

Class	Category	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u> and thereafter
Class 1 and 2	Light Duty Tow	\$235	\$245	\$255
Class 3 thru 4	Medium Duty Tow	\$400	\$400	\$400
Class 5 and 8	Heavy Duty Tow	\$600	\$600	\$600

Decoupling Fee (if tow is not performed)

Class	Category	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u> and thereafter
Class 1 and 2	Light Duty Tow	\$117.50	\$122.50	\$127.50
Class 3 thru 4	Medium Duty Tow	\$200	\$200	\$200
Class 5 and 8	Heavy Duty Tow	\$300	\$300	\$300

Schedule B: Winching Service Charge

Winching Service Charge (Half-Hour Rate)

Class	Category	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u> and thereafter
Class 1 and 4	Light / Medium	\$175	\$175	\$175
Class 54 thru 8	Heavy	\$325	\$325	\$325

Schedule C: Administrative, Storage, and General Charges Administrative:

A one-time removal fee may be charged for each vehicle that has to be removed from the storage facility by means of towing. This fee is intended solely for those vehicles that are inoperable due to damage that requires the tower to remove the vehicle from the storage lot in order for another person or firm to remove the vehicle for disposal.

	Category	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u> and thereafter
Administrative Charge	Light/Medium \$55	\$55	\$55	
Administrative Charge	Heavy	\$200	\$200	\$200
Notification/documentation (All classes)		\$55	\$55	\$55
After hours release	(All classes)	Half price of the applicable towing charge		

Storage: There shall be no storage charge for any vehicle that is removed from the storage facility within 24 hours of the time that it is towed.

Daily Exterior Storage Charge

Class	Category	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u> and thereafter
Class 1 and 2	Light Duty	\$55	\$55	\$55
Class 3 thru 4	Medium Duty \$90	\$90	\$90	
Class 5 and 8	Heavy Duty	\$125	\$125	\$125
	Buses	\$150	\$150	\$150
	Roll-off	\$125	\$125	\$125
Cargo/Accident Debris/Load storage/Vehicle components	10x20 space:	\$50	\$50	\$50
Rental of any tow company supplied trailer post incident		\$500	\$500	\$500

Daily Interior Charge (not including tarping)

Class	Category	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2027</u> and thereafter
Class 1 and 2	Light Duty	\$110	\$110	\$110
Class 3 thru 4	Medium Duty \$180	\$180	\$180	
Class 5 and 8	Heavy Duty Tow	\$250	\$250	\$250

**in accordance with §136-8(B)(1), no storage fee shall be imposed if the tower declines to provide pick-up hours on legal holidays.

General:

The following general service calls shall apply when the tower responds to a Police request for these services. These types of service calls typically do not require the vehicle to be physically removed from the location rather the tower provides the service on scene and the vehicle is driven by the owner/operator from the scene. Should the services be unsuccessful on scene and the removal of the vehicle is required to complete the repairs/service, at the vehicle owner's/operator's approval, the above towing fees shall apply.

Class	Category	2025	2026	2027 and thereafter
Class 1 and 2	Light Duty	\$150	\$150	\$150 per hour plus parts
Class 3 thru 4	Medium Duty \$200	\$200	\$200	per hour plus parts
Class 5 and 8	Heavy Duty	\$200	\$200	\$200 per hour plus parts

Note: These charges do not apply to Township Vehicles

Schedule D: Miscellaneous Charges Miscellaneous:

	2025	2026	2027 and thereafter
Accident minor clean up and disposal of debris	\$75	\$75	\$75
	(plus current cost of absorbent materials)		
Window wrap & tarping	Light Duty \$90	\$90	\$90
	Medium Duty \$250	\$250	\$250
	(at the request of vehicle owner or Police)		
Rotator/crane recovery unit	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$1,200 (per hour)
Tractor w/ landoll trailer or detach trailer	\$500	\$500	\$500 (per hour)
Tractor/transport hauler only	\$350	\$350	\$350 (per hour)
Refrigerated trailer w/ tractor	\$550	\$550	\$550 (per hour)
Box trailer w/ tractor	\$500	\$500	\$500 (per hour)
Air Cushion Unit	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000 (per hour)
Light tower	\$250	\$250	\$250 (per hour)
Pallet jack	\$200	\$200	\$200 (flat rate)
Rollers	\$200	\$200	\$200 (flat rate)
Any other specialized equipment	\$300	\$300	\$300 (per hour)
Loader/backhoe/ telescopic handler/ bulldozer/ bobcat/ Forklift	\$400	\$400	\$400 (per hour, per vessel)
Dump truck/ dump trailer w/ tractor	\$400	\$400	\$400 (per hour)
Roll-off with container	\$400	\$400	\$400 per hour plus disposal
Recovery supervisor vehicle	\$150	\$150	\$150 (per hour)
Scene safety equipment, communications equipment, traffic management equipment, etc.:	\$250	\$250	\$250 (per hour, per vessel)
Recovery support vehicle/ Trailer additional recovery equipment	\$350	\$350	\$350 (per hour)
Recovery supervisor and/or Level III recovery specialist	\$250	\$250	\$250 (per hour)
Certified Towing Operator	\$150	\$150	\$150 (per hour, per driver)
Manual Laborer	\$125	\$125	\$125 (per hour, per person)
Fuel/Hazmat/cargo spills clean up and disposal: Time and material			
Hazmat and trash recovery:	Surcharged 10%		
Subcontractor mark-up:	20%	20%	20%

* After the first hour. All hourly billable rates will be charged in half hour increments.

** Charges for all trucks/recovery equipment are inclusive of the operator. You may not separately charge for an operator that drives/operates the truck/recovery equipment.

SECTION TWO: REPEALER, SEVERABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE

- A. Any and all Ordinances and provisions thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance shall be and are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.
- B. If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision and the remainder of this ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.
- C. This Ordinance shall take effect on July 1, 2025 at 12:00 AM.