

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HALLSVILLE, MISSOURI
AMENDING SECTION 385.030.A REGARDING TOWING OF ABANDONED PROPERTY
AND 385.040.C REGARDING RECLAIMING PROPERTY**

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen for the City of Hallsville, Missouri finds it advisable to clarify, define, and declare the condition upon which abandoned property within the City of Hallsville city limits may be towed and reclaimed.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF HALLSVILLE, MISSOURI AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1: SECTION 385.030.A IS HEREBY AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

- A. Any Law Enforcement Officer or an official of the City, within the officer's or official's jurisdiction, may authorize a towing company to remove to a place of safety:
1. Any abandoned property on the right-of-way of:
 - a. Any State highway, other than an interstate highway or freeway outside of an urbanized area, left unattended for more than twenty-four (24) hours;

provided that commercial motor vehicles referred to in Subsection (A)(1)(a) through (c) not hauling waste designated as hazardous under 49 U.S.C. §5103(a) may only be removed under this Section to a place of safety until the owner or owner's representative has had a reasonable opportunity to contact a towing company of choice; or
 - b. Any State highway, other than an interstate highway or freeway in an urbanized area, left unattended for more than ten (10) hours.
 2. Any unattended abandoned property illegally left standing upon any highway or bridge if the abandoned property is left in a position or under such circumstances as to obstruct the normal movement of traffic where there is no reasonable indication that the person in control of the property is arranging for its immediate control or removal.
 3. Any abandoned property which has been abandoned under Section 385.010 herein or Section 577.080, RSMo.
 4. Any abandoned property which has been reported as stolen or taken without consent of the owner.
 5. Any abandoned property for which the person operating such property is arrested for an alleged offense for which the officer takes the person into custody and where such person is unable to arrange for the property's timely removal.
 6. Any abandoned property which due to any other State law or City ordinance is subject to towing because of the owner's outstanding traffic or parking violations.

7. Any abandoned property left unattended in violation of a State law or City ordinance where signs have been posted giving notice of the law or where the violation causes a safety hazard.
8. Any abandoned property illegally left standing on the waters of this State as defined in Section 306.010, RSMo., where the abandoned property is obstructing the normal movement of traffic, or where the abandoned property has been unattended for more than ten (10) hours or is floating loose on the water.
9. Any abandoned property for which the person operating such property or vehicle eludes arrest for an alleged offense for which the officer would have taken the offender into custody.
10. Any abandoned property that cannot be legally operated on the roadway due to missing, invalid, or expired license plates or registration tabs as required by the laws of this state.
11. Any abandoned property that cannot be legally operated on the roadway because the operator either does not have a valid driver's license or has a revoked or suspended driver's license.

SECTION 385.040.C IS HEREBY AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

- C. *Reclaiming Property.* The owner of such abandoned property, or the holder of a valid security interest of record, may reclaim it from the towing company upon proof of ownership or valid security interest of record, payment of all reasonable charges for the towing and storage of the abandoned property, and proof of valid driver's license, current registration, and insurance.

SECTION 3: If any provision of this ordinance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect any other provision or the application thereof, which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable.

SECTION 4: This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from the date of its final passage and approval.

READ TWO TIMES AND PASSED by the Board of Alderman of the City of Hallsville, Missouri this 17th day of November, 2025.

THIS ORDINANCE APPROVED by the Mayor of the City of Hallsville, Missouri this 17th day of November, 2025.

Kate Boatright, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kenyetta Ridgway-Sample, City Administrator/City Clerk