

**CHAPTER 481.**

AN ACT to create 60.297 of the statutes, relating to the power of town boards to regulate, license and impose special assessments on trailer camps and providing penalties.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

60.297 of the statutes is created to read:

**60.297 POWER TO REGULATE, LICENSE AND IMPOSE SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS ON TRAILER CAMPS. (1) DEFINITIONS.** (a) The term "trailer" as used in this section means any vehicle, house car, camp car, or any portable or mobile vehicle on wheels, skids, rollers, or blocks, either self-propelled or propelled by any other means, which is used or designed to be used for residential, living or sleeping purposes.

(b) The term "trailer site" as used in this section means a tract or parcel of land on which one or more trailers are usually kept or parked.

(c) The term "trailer camp" as used in this section means any area or premises on which space available for 2 or more trailers is rented or held for rent, or on which free occupancy or camping for such number is permitted to trailer owners, but not including automobile or trailer sales lots on which unoccupied trailers are parked for purposes of inspection and sale.

**(2) POWER GRANTED.** (a) In order to protect and promote the public health, morals and welfare and to equitably defray the cost of municipal and educational services required by persons and families resident in trailers and trailer camps, the town board may by ordinance establish reasonable standards and regulations for trailer camps, require an annual license to operate the same, levy and collect special assessments for use of trailer camp sites by trailers and prescribe penalties no to exceed \$100 for each violation of such ordinance. The power conferred by this section is in addition to all other grants and shall be deemed limited only by the express language of this section.

(b) In any town in which the town board adopts an ordinance regulating trailers under the provisions of this section and has also adopted and approved a county zoning ordinance under the provision of section 59.97, the provisions of the ordinance which is most restrictive shall apply with respect to the establishment and operation of any trailer camp in said town.

**(3) LICENSE.** (a) Each town board adopting such ordinance may grant a trailer camp license to a person of good moral character who is the operator of a trailer camp upon filing application for said license on the form prescribed by the town board and otherwise complying with the terms of such ordinance, including the payment of the prescribed annual license fee. The town board may by such ordinance limit the number of licenses for trailer camps in any common school district area and may also limit the number of trailers that may be parked in any one camp.

(b) The annual license fee shall be uniform and in such amount as the town board issuing the same shall determine, except that the maximum fee shall not exceed \$500.

**(4) SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS.** (a) The town board may levy special assessments commensurate with the cost of all local governmental services required by the trailer camp and the occupants thereof. The amount of such special assessments that may be levied against each trailer site or trailer camp shall be determined after a public hearing, as hereinafter provided. Said special assessments shall continue until changed either by ordinance of the town board, or after a hearing on petition filed for a change in the amount.

(b) The town board may provide that the special assessments so made shall be paid monthly on the basis of the number of trailers parked in said camp during the previous calendar month.

(c) The county superintendent of schools shall at the request of the town board advise the board in matters pertaining to the cost of education in the school district where the trailer camp is located. The town board shall determine the part of the monthly per trailer assessment that shall be paid to the common school district. The school district board shall be entitled to receive said part of the special assessments at such time as it shall request the payment to be made.

**(5) NOTICE AND HEARING BEFORE BOARD.** (a) The town board shall make preliminary determination of the amount of the per trailer special assessment to be levied against a trailer site or trailer camp in each common school district showing proposed division to the common school district, and shall give notice of hearing on said

proposed special assessment to be held at the town hall where any interested person shall have an opportunity to be heard.

(b) The town clerk shall post a notice of said hearing in at least 3 public places within the township, one posting of which shall be in a conspicuous place on each trailer camp property. At least one week shall intervene between the date of posting of such notice and the time of said meeting. The board may at such meeting, or at an adjourned meeting, confirm or change said proposed special assessment and upon final determination of the amount of such special assessment shall post a notice on each trailer camp property stating the amount of the per trailer special assessment as finally determined.

(c) If the owner of any parcel of land affected by such final determination feels himself aggrieved thereby, he may within 20 days after the date of posting such determination appeal therefrom to the circuit court of the county in which said camp is situated by causing a written notice of appeal to be served upon the town clerk and by executing a bond to the town in the sum of \$150 with 2 sureties or a bonding company to be approved by the town clerk conditioned for the faithful prosecution of such appeal and the payment of all costs that may be adjudged against him. The clerk, in case such an appeal is taken, shall make a brief statement of the proceedings had in a matter before the board, with its determination thereon, and shall submit the same with all papers in the matter to the clerk of the circuit court. Such appeal shall be tried and determined in the same manner as cases originally commenced in said court.

(6) LIEN. (a) Each such special assessment shall be a lien on the trailer camp or trailer site property against which it is assessed and, if not otherwise paid, shall be entered upon the tax roll and shall be collected as general taxes. Failure to pay such assessments shall be a ground for revoking of the trailer camp license.

(b) Trailers parked or kept in trailer camps or sites that do not have the wheels removed or otherwise constructed for a permanent place of abode, and which are registered under chapter 85, shall be regarded as used in connection with the motor vehicle of the owner within the meaning of section 70.112 (5).

(7) APPLICABILITY. This section shall not apply where a trailer camp is owned and operated by any county under the provisions of section 59.076.

Approved July 18, 1949.

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