

CHAPTER 58-15

POLICE IN UNINCORPORATED TOWNSITE

58-15-01. Petition for police officer in townsite - Contents of petition. If sixty percent of the qualified electors residing within the limits of any platted unincorporated townsite petition the board of supervisors of the township in which it, or the greater portion thereof, is situated, praying for the appointment of a police officer to serve as a night watchman in such townsite and for the levy of a tax on the property therein to pay such officer, and stating the period for which the appointment is to be made, and the name of the townsite for which such police officer is to be appointed, the board of township supervisors shall appoint such officer for the period designated in the petition and fix the officer's compensation.

58-15-02. Tax levy for police officer - Certification - Extension. If a petition filed under the provisions of section 58-15-01 is found sufficient, the board of township supervisors, at the time the general township tax levy is made, shall levy upon all the property within the unincorporated townsite from which the petition is received the specific amount fixed by the board as the compensation of the police officer. The amount so levied must be certified to the county auditor when other township taxes are certified. The county auditor shall calculate the mill levy necessary to raise the sum and extend the same on the tax list of the township against the property within the unincorporated townsite in a column entitled "police tax".

58-15-03. Bond of police officer - Removal by board. The police officer appointed to act in an unincorporated townsite shall give a bond and qualify in the same manner as township officers. The bond must be in the amount fixed by the board of township supervisors and must be filed as other township officers' bonds are filed. The board of township supervisors may remove the police officer whenever it deems it expedient.

58-15-04. Powers, duties, and authority of police officer. A police officer appointed under this chapter has the same powers, duties, and authority as a peace officer. During the period for which the police officer is appointed, the police officer shall patrol the unincorporated township each night and shall guard against fire, theft, and burglary, preserve the peace, and execute the laws of this state.

58-15-05. Police officer paid monthly. By means of warrants drawn upon the township treasurer, the police officer must be paid each month, from the fund created by section 58-15-02, the compensation fixed by the supervisors.

58-15-06. When tax levy and appointment not to be made. No tax levy or appointment may be made as provided in this chapter in any year in which the petition has not been presented to the board of township supervisors before the first day of July in such year.

58-15-07. Collection, payment, and account of taxes. The tax levied to provide a police officer in an unincorporated townsite must be collected and paid over as other township taxes are collected and paid, and the treasurer of the township shall keep a separate account thereof.