

BOROUGH OF BUTLER
ORDINANCE NO. 2026 – 02

Notice is hereby given that the below entitled ordinance was regularly, duly and finally passed at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Butler in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, held on March 17, 2026 and will become effective upon publication according to law.

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 216, “TOWING AND STORAGE OF VEHICLES”, OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF BUTLER AND PROVIDING PROCEDURES FOR NOTIFICATION TO OWNERS OF TOWED VEHICLES.

Section 1. Chapter 216, “Towers and Wreckers,” Section 216-116, “Abandoned and Unclaimed Vehicles” of the Revised General Ordinances of the Borough of Butler shall be retitled and amended to read in its entirety as follows:

§ 216-16 Abandoned, Unclaimed, and Impounded Vehicle, Notice and Right to a Hearing

- A. A towing contractor storing an abandoned, unclaimed or impounded vehicle shall notify the Police Department of any vehicle not removed within seven (7) days of taking possession. The Police Department shall be responsible for notifying the owner or any other party with a documented legal interest in vehicle impounded under this chapter that their vehicle has been towed to the impound area within fifteen (15) days of impoundment or as soon thereafter as is practicable by certified mail (the “Notice”).
- B. The notification shall indicate that the vehicle will remain impounded until the payment of the costs of towing and removal, together with applicable storage charges for each and every day the vehicle remains impounded, as allowable by any and all New Jersey laws governing such fees and consistent with the Borough Code.
- C. The Notice shall also inform the interested party of their right to request a hearing on the papers, with respect to establishing their legal entitlement to take possession of the vehicle by service of a written claim notarized by the interested party providing proof of a right to possession (“Claim”). Any claim shall be directed to and served on the Borough Clerk in person or by mail to the Borough address or email as shown on the Borough website within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the notification. The subject matter of the hearing on the papers shall be limited to determining: (a) the possessory interests in the vehicle; and/or (b) the party who will take and/or retain possession of the vehicle. The Police Chief or his/her designee shall be responsible for conducting any requested hearing and shall respond within seven (7) days of receipt of a Claim.
- D. The vehicle shall remain impounded until the Borough Police Department is contacted and presented with satisfactory proof of legal entitlement to take possession of the vehicle.

Section 2. This Ordinance may be renumbered for codification purposes.

Section 3. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances which are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after final passage and publication in the manner provided by law.