

1 **Ordinance to Amend and Re-Enact City Code of Hampton, Virginia by Adding**
2 **Chapter 9, Building and Development Regulations, Article I, In General, Section 9-**
3 **13 to Conform to Current State Code Authority Regarding Vacant Building**
4 **Registration.**

5
6 **BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Hampton, Virginia, that Chapter 9 of
7 the City Code of the City of Hampton, Virginia be amended to read as follows:
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9 **Chapter 9 – BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS**

10
11 **ARTICLE I. – IN GENERAL**

12
13 ...

14
15 ***Sec. 9-13. – Vacant building registration; civil penalty.***

16
17 *(a) The owner of a building that has been vacant for a continuous period of 12 months or*
18 *more and that meets one of the following, (i) is a derelict building; (ii) is determined to be*
19 *the situs of criminal blight in accordance with section 24-112 of the city code; or (iii) it is*
20 *determined that an unauthorized person is living in the building, must register such*
21 *building on an annual basis.*

22
23 *(b) To register the building, the owner, or the owner's agent for the building, must provide*
24 *the following information to the code official:*

25 *(1) The address of the vacant building;*

26 *(2) The name, address, and telephone number of the owner and/or the owner's agent;*

27 *(3) A detailed statement which estimates how long the building is likely to remain vacant,*
28 *and the reasons for it remaining vacant during that period;*

29 *(4) A description of the measures that will be taken while the building is vacant to ensure*
30 *the building remains compliant with all applicable building, health, and property*
31 *maintenance codes; and*

32 *(5) Proof that the owner or the owner's agent has implemented an on-going rodent*
33 *abatement and prevention plan.*

34
35 *(c) The building owner shall pay an annual registration fee of \$100.00. The fee shall be*
36 *paid at the time that the building is initially registered. For each subsequent year, or any*
37 *part of such year, that the building remains continuously vacant, an annual and non-*
38 *refundable fee of \$100.00 shall be paid within fifteen (15) days of the anniversary date of*
39 *the building's initial registration.*

40
41 *(d) Failure to register shall result in a \$200 civil penalty. Notice of such penalty shall be*
42 *mailed to the owner or owner's agent at least thirty (30) days prior to the assessment of*
43 *the penalty.*

44
45 *(e) For purposes of this section, derelict building shall be defined as a residential or*
46 *nonresidential building or structure, whether or not construction has been completed, that*

47 *might endanger the public's health, safety, or welfare and for a continuous period in*
48 *excess of six (6) months, it has been (i) vacant, (ii) boarded up in accordance with the*
49 *building code, and (ii) not lawfully connected to electric service from a utility service*
50 *provider or not lawfully connected to any required water or sewage service from a utility*
51 *service provider.*

52
53 **State Law reference—** *Vacant building registration; civil penalty, Code of Virginia, §*
54 *15.2-1127.*