



## **ORDINANCE #2026-12**

### **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DOVER, IN COUNCIL MET:**

That Chapter 2 – Administration, Article V. – Finance be amended by inserting Sec. 2-428. – Public Safety fund and to read as follows:

#### **Sec. 2-428. – Public safety fund.**

- (a) The City Manager is hereby authorized to impose a fee and to bill residents and others for police and fire services. Such fees will be assessed monthly and included as a general billing item, included on monthly residential and commercial utility bills. The public safety fee shall apply to all utility customers within the City of Dover boundaries.
- (b) Establishment of specialized fund.
  - (1) All revenues received in accordance with this section shall be deposited in the public safety fund. These funds shall be used to pay for regular and necessary administrative and capital costs for police and fire services, including allowances for externalities and uncertainties, and debt service.
  - (2) The proceeds of the public safety fund shall be managed by the City of Dover Department of Finance, which shall regularly report the status of the fund, arrange for audit, and oversee disbursements as provided for by any contractual provisions and the city's financial management policies.
- (c) Fees and the fee schedule will periodically be reviewed and adjusted to reflect changing costs. Council shall set the fee by ordinance to be adopted annually with the adoption of the Fiscal Year Budget ordinance. The fees are to be added, updated, and reflected in the rates and tariff annual document, and such amount shall be kept in a separate, interest-earning account and shall be used only for the costs associated with police and fire administrative and capital costs and debt service. The fee is subject to the city's collection policies and procedures, but is not lienable against customers' property nor subject to the Clean Hands Ordinance. The City Manager may authorize commercial allocation procedures and utilize the same procedures as other outstanding fees.
- (d) Exemption. Associated fees shall not be applied to properties covered by the Public Safety Higher Education Fund.

(e) Severability. If any provision of this article shall be determined to be invalid in whole or in part, all other provisions shall continue to be separately and fully effective.

(f) Effective date. The public safety fee shall be effective on July 1, 2026.

Secs. 2-429-2-500. – Reserved.

ADOPTED: June 22, 2026

#### **SYNOPSIS**

This ordinance establishes a public safety fee for the purpose of paying for regular and necessary administrative and capital costs for police and fire services, including allowances for externalities and uncertainties, and debt service. Properties associated with the Public Safety Higher Education Fund will be exempt.

(SPONSORS: ANDERSON, DUCA)

#### **Action History**

06/22/2026 - Final Reading – City Council

06/08/2026 – First Reading – City Council

06/08/2026 – Introduction – Special Legislative, Finance, and Administration Committee