

CHAPTER 4

LAW ENFORCEMENT

4.01 Code Enforcement

4.02 Create Municipal Court

4.01 CODE ENFORCEMENT. The County Sheriff is hereby authorized to enforce this Code.

4.02 CREATE MUNICIPAL COURT. An ordinance to create of the Municipal Code of the Town of Beecher in Marinette County, State of Wisconsin per §66.0301 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

The town boards of the Town of Beecher, Town of Dunbar, Town of Pembine and Town of Niagara ordain as follows:

SECTION 1

- (1) **COURT ESTABLISHED** – Pursuant to the authority granted by Chapter 755 of the Wisconsin Statutes, there is hereby created and established a joint municipal court to be designated “Northern Marinette County Joint Municipal Court” for the Town of Beecher, the Town of Dunbar, the Town of Pembine, and the Town of Niagara in Marinette County, State of Wisconsin. Said court to become operative and functional on April 1, 2025.
- (2) **MUNICIPAL JUDGE** A. Qualifications – There is hereby created the office of municipal judge of the Northern Marinette County Joint Municipal Court for the Towns of Beecher, Dunbar, Pembine, and Niagara. The municipal judge shall be a resident of one of these municipalities and be appointed by the Administrative Court Committee in an interim election year or elected by a majority of the voters in these jurisdictions. B. Oath and Bond. The judge shall, after election or appointment to fill a vacancy, take and file the official oath as prescribed in §757.03, Wis. Stats., and file such oath with the Administrative Court Committee. At the same time, the judge shall execute and file an indemnity bond with the Administrative Court Committee in the amount of \$500.00. The judge shall not act until the oath and bond have been filed as required §755.03 Wis. Stats. C. Salary. The municipal judge shall receive a salary as determined by the Administrative Court Committee which shall be in lieu of fees and costs. No salary shall be paid to the Judge for any time during his/her term for which he/she has not executed and filed the official bond and oath. The Salary may be increased by the Administrative Court Committee before the start of the second or subsequent year of service of the term of the judge but shall not be decreased during a term. D. Election. Term. The municipal judge shall be elected at large for a term of four (4) years at the spring election held in odd-numbered years and shall take office on May 1 following the election. (Any vacancy occurring in the office of municipal judge shall be filled pursuant to state law.)
- (3) **ELECTION AND TERM** Term: The municipal judge shall be elected at large in the spring election in odd-numbered years for a term of four (4) years commencing on May 1. All candidates for the position of municipal judge shall be nominated by nomination papers as provided in §8.10, Wis. Stats., and selection at a primary election if such is held as provided in §8.11, Wis. Stats. The county clerk shall serve as filing officer for the candidates. The current joint municipal judge shall serve out their current term of office. Electors: Electors in all municipalities that are parties to the agreement shall vote for judge.
- (4) **JURISDICTION** The municipal court shall have jurisdiction over incidents occurring on or after (date of establishment) as provided in Article VII, §14 of the Wisconsin Constitution, §§755.045 and 755.05, Wis. Stats., and as otherwise provided by state law. In addition, it shall have exclusive jurisdiction over actions in which the municipality seeks to impose forfeitures for violation of municipal ordinances, resolutions and by-laws. The municipal judge may issue civil warrants to enforce matters under the jurisdiction of the municipal court under §755.045(2), §66.0119 and §66.0119(3), Wis. Stats. The municipal court has jurisdiction over juvenile offenders when a municipality that is party to the agreement enacts an ordinance under the authority of 938.17(2)(cm) Wis. Stats.
- (5) **MUNICIPAL COURT** Hours: The municipal court shall be open at such location and at such times as determined by the Administrative Court Committee of the municipalities that are parties to the agreement. Employees: The Judge shall, in writing, appoint such clerks and deputy clerks that are authorized and funded by the Administrative Court Committee of the municipalities that are parties to the agreement.
- (6) **COLLECTION OF FORFEITURES AND COSTS** The municipal judge may impose punishment and sentences as provided by Chapters 800 and 938 Wis. Stats., and as provided in the ordinances of the municipalities that are parties to the agreement. All forfeitures, fees, assessments, surcharges and costs shall be paid to the treasurer of the municipality within which the case arose within thirty (30) days after receipt of the money by the municipal court. At the time of the payment, the municipal court shall report to the treasurer the title of the action, the nature of the

offenses, the final disposition of the case and total amount of judgments imposed in actions and proceedings in which such monies were collected.

- (7) CONTEMPT OF COURT The municipal judge, after affording an opportunity to the person accused to be heard in defense, may impose a sanction authorized under §800.12 Wis. Stats.

- (8) ABOLISHMENT/TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT The municipal court hereby established shall not be abolished while the §755.01(4) agreement is in effect. A municipality may terminate this agreement as per the incorporated bylaws and upon submitting a letter of resignation to the Administrative Court Committee by August 31 of that same year regardless of the end of the judge's term.

SECTION 2

All ordinances or parts of ordinances contravening or inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance be are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3

This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and effect from and after its passage by the municipalities that are parties to the agreement and publication as required by law.