

**TOWN MANAGER**  
Ken Deal

**TOWN CLERK**  
Pamela Mills

**TOWN ATTORNEY**  
Tom Brooke



**MAYOR**  
Lee Withers

**TOWN COUNCIL**  
Brandon Linn  
Rodney Phillips  
Charles Seaford  
Steve Stroud  
Mike Upright

## **TOWN OF CHINA GROVE**

### **AN ORDINANCE TO REQUIRE KNOX BOXES AT NEW COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS, EXISTING COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS WITH IMPROVEMENTS REQUIRING PLANNING BOARD APPROVAL, EXISTING COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS AND CERTAIN MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL**

**WHEREAS**, an ordinance is necessary to require certain commercial and residential buildings to install Knox Boxes; and,

**WHEREAS**, the benefits of installing Knox Boxes include providing immediate emergency access to firefighters leading to increasing Fire Department efficiency; preventing costly forced entry damage and allowing undamaged doors to be re-secured after the emergency; and protecting property, inventory, equipment and supplies as well as firefighters against possible injuries.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Town Council of the Town of China Grove, that the Code of Ordinances of the Town of China Grove, Chapter 30, Fire Prevention and Protection, be amended as follows:

#### **Section 30-5:**

##### **Knox Boxes.**

**A. Knox Box Required for New Commercial Buildings.** All new commercial buildings shall have installed a Knox Box, of a UL type and size approved by the Towns Fire Chief or Official in a location specified by the Towns Fire Official prior to the issuance of the permit of occupancy.

**B. Knox Box Required for Existing Commercial Buildings with Improvements.** All existing commercial buildings constructing improvements that require Planning Board approval shall have installed a Knox Box, of a UL type and size approved by the Towns Fire Official, in a location specified by the Fire Official prior to the issuance of the construction permit.

**C. Knox Box Required for Existing Commercial Buildings.** All existing commercial buildings equipped with automatic fire detection and/or suppression system shall have installed a Knox

Box, of a UL type and size approved by the Towns Fire Official, in a location specified by the Towns Fire Official within six (6) months of the effective date of this Ordinance.

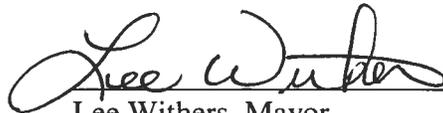
**D. Knox Box Required for Multi-family Residential Structures.** All multi-family residential structures that have restricted access through locked doors and have a common corridor for access to the living units shall have installed a Knox Box, of a UL type and size approved by the Towns Fire Official, in a location specified by the Towns Fire Official within six (6) months of the effective date of this Ordinance.

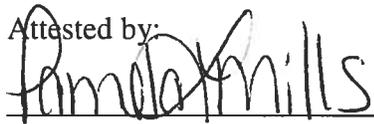
**E. Knox Box Contents.** All Knox Boxes shall contain labeled keys, easily identified in the field to provide access into the property and/or building, and to any locked areas within the said building as the Towns Fire Official may direct.

**F. Penalties.** Any property or building owner failing to comply with, or in violation of the terms of this Ordinance after notice from the Towns Fire Official, shall be subject to a fine of One Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$100.00).

**G. Definitions.** "Knox Box" means a secure rapid entry system that is designed to be used by Fire Department Personnel in the event of an emergency to gain entry into a structure by using the enclosed owner provided key(s). This box is usually mounted on the exterior of the building in a location that is specified by the local Fire Official. All boxes shall be UL (Underwriters Laboratories) certified and approved by the Township Fire Official.

Adopted this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2016.

  
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Lee Withers, Mayor

Attested by:  
  
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Pamela L. Mills, Town Clerk