AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING THE OPERATION OF COMMERCIAL VEHICLES WITHIN THE TOWN

WHEREAS, the Town of Morrison is a Colorado home rule municipality operating under a Charter approved by the electorate pursuant to Article XX of the Colorado Constitution and governed by its elected Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees (the Board) has authority pursuant to the Home Rule Charter and C.R.S. §31-16-101, et seq. to adopt and enforce all ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that failure by certain commercial vehicles to apply alternate traction control devices or chains when required causes dangerous delays and closures on roadways within the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds it is necessary to protect public health and safety by adopting penalties for such actions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Trustees of the Town of Morrison, Colorado, that:

Section 1. Municipal Code amended. Title 6 of the Morrison Municipal Code is amended by the addition of a new Chapter 4, entitled “Traction Control Devices” to read:

CHAPTER 4

TRACTION CONTROL DEVICES

SECTION:

6-4-1: Definitions.
6-4-2: Traction Control Devices Required; Penalty
6-4-3: Obstructing Roadway; Penalty

6-4-1: DEFINITIONS:

a) “Alternate traction device” means a device that is approved by the Colorado department of transportation as capable of providing traction comparable to that of metal chains or tire cables under similar conditions.
b) “Equipped” means that a motor vehicle uses or carries the appropriate traction equipment for icy or snow-packed conditions.
c) “Tire chains” means metal chains consisting of two circular metal loops, one on each side of the tire, connected by no fewer than nine evenly spaced chains across the tire tread.
6-4-2: TRACTION CONTROL DEVICE REQUIRED: Any person operating a commercial vehicle or vehicle combination over thirty-five feet in length on any roadway within the town shall equip said vehicle with tire chains or alternate traction control devices when the requirement for same is posted by signage physically erected by the Town, County or state of Colorado.

PENALTY: Violation of this section is a traffic offense. Upon conviction in the municipal court, the penalty for the same shall be $500.

6-4-3: OBSTRUCTING ROADWAY: When any person operating a commercial vehicle or vehicle combination over thirty-five feet in length on any roadway within the town fails to equip said vehicle with chains or alternate traction control devices as required by Section 6-4-1, and the result of said violation is an incident that causes the closure of a travel lane in one or both directions, it is a violation of this Section.

PENALTY: Violation of this section is a traffic offense. Upon conviction in the municipal court, the penalty for the same shall be $1500.

Section 2. Severability. If any article, section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance, or the standards adopted herein is held to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision will not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The Board of Trustees hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each part hereof irrespective of the fact that any one part or parts are declared unconstitutional or invalid.

Section 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after adoption and publication as provided by Section 3.14 of the Home Rule Charter.

INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED AND ADOPTED this 3rd day of March, 2020, by a vote of _______ ayes and ______ nays.

TOWN OF MORRISON:

____________________________________
Sean K. Forey, Mayor

ATTEST:

____________________________________
Lyndsey Paavilainen, Town Clerk