AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE IX OF CHAPTER 8 OF THE CARRBORO TOWN CODE DEALING WITH THE TOWING OF MOTOR VEHICLES FROM PRIVATE PROPERTY

THE CARRBORO BOARD OF ALDERMEN ORDAINS:

Section 1. Subsections (a) and (b) of Section 8-80 of the Town Code are amended to read as follows:

(a) A violation of the following sections of Subchapter II shall constitute a misdemeanor, punishable as provided in G.S. 14-4: 8-41, 8-51(a), 8-52, 8-53, 8-61(a), 8-62(a) and (b), 8-63 through 8-66, 8-70 through 8-77, and 8-78 through 8-78.3 <u>8-78.4</u>.

(b) A violation of the provisions listed in subsection (a), other than Sections 8-78 through 8-78.3 8-78.4, shall also subject the offender to a civil penalty of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). A violation of the provisions of Sections 8-78 through 8-78.3 8-78.4 shall subject the offender to a civil penalty of fifty dollars (\$50.00) for the first offense, one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for the second offense, and two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) for each subsequent offense. If the offender fails to pay this penalty within ten days after being cited for a violation, the penalty may be recovered by the town in a civil action in the nature of debt.

Section 2. Subsection 8-17(a) of the Town Code is amended by adding the following as a second sentence:

The town manager may also revoke a license to operate a motor vehicle towing business within the town if the manager concludes that the licensee has violated the provisions of Article IX of this chapter.

Section 3. Subsection 8-17(c) of the Town Code is amended by replacing the period at the end of the subsection with a semi-colon and adding thereafter the following phrase: "provided that, if a license to operate a motor vehicle towing service has been revoked because the licensee has violated the provisions of Article IX of this chapter, a new or renewal license may not be issued for a period of three months after the effective date of the revocation."

Section 4. Section 8-78 of the Town Code is amended to read as follows:

The provisions of this article (other than Section 8-78.4) shall apply only to persons who tow a motor vehicle from private property at the request of a person who is not the owner or operator of the motor vehicle that is towed.

Section 5. Article IX of Chapter 8 of the Town Code is amended by adding a new Section 8-78.4 to read as follows:

Section 8-78.4 Signs Informing that Credit and Debit Cards Okay for Towing Fees

Not more than ten motor vehicles within a twelve month period may be towed from private property at the request of the property owner or a person in possession of the property or an agent thereof unless the signs that are posted to warn that vehicles may be towed also state that the town requires that towers accept payment by cash or major credit/debit cards.

Section 6. All provisions of any town ordinance in conflict with this ordinance are repealed.

Section 7. This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.