

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE  
TO  
DISPOSE OF UNCLAIMED PROPERTY

Article 14

To see if the Town will vote to adopt an ordinance for the disposition of unclaimed property from the Police Department.

ORDINANCE

Section 1 Purpose

To provide for the control of proper disposition of unclaimed property which has come into the possession of the Litchfield Police Department, the Town of Litchfield has adopted this ordinance which sets forth the policy of the Town in this regard.

Section 2 Disposition of Unclaimed Property

The Chief of Police, or such person as should be designated by him, may sell at public auction all unclaimed property that has been in custody of the Police Department for a period of sixty (60) days or more. He shall fix a day upon which said sale shall take place, and give notice thereof by publication in a daily newspaper of general circulation. Said notice shall state the day and hour when such sale shall commence and shall contain a general description of the property to be sold, or shall refer to a list thereof on file with the Chief of Police. Said notice shall be signed by the Chief of Police or by the person designated by him to conduct such public auction. The proceeds of such sale, after deducting the cost of storage, advertising, selling and other expenses incident to the handling and selling of such property, shall together with all monies unclaimed for a period of sixty (60) days or more, be paid into the Town treasury. In no case shall any property be sold or disposed of until the necessity for the use thereof as evidence has ceased.

### Section 3 Perishable or Bulky Property

If any property seized or taken possession of by the Police Department shall be of a perishable nature, or so bulky or of such nature as to make it dangerous or inadvisable to retain possession thereof for the length of time specified in Section 2, the Chief of Police, upon certifying such fact to the Board of Selectmen, and setting forth his reasons why such property should not be retained for the period hereinabove fixed before selling same, shall, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, cause such property to be advertised forthwith in a daily newspaper of general circulation within the Town, and shall sell such property at public auction at any time after twenty (20) days have elapsed from the seizure or taking possession thereof. The proceeds of such sale, after deducting the cost of storage, advertising, selling and other expenses incident to the handling and selling of such property shall be paid into the Town treasury.

### Section 4 Disposition of Weapons

The Chief of Police, or such person who may be designated by him, may sell at auction to federally licensed dealers all unclaimed weapons, pistols, revolvers, derringers, or other deadly weapon that have been in custody of the Police Department for a period of sixty (60) days or more, as permitted by state and federal law. He shall fix a day upon which said sale shall take place and give notice thereof by publication in a daily newspaper. Said notice shall state the day, hour and place when such sale shall commence and shall contain a general description of the property to be sold, or shall refer to a list thereof on file with the Chief of Police. Such notice shall be signed by the Chief of Police or by the person designated by him to conduct such auction. The proceeds of such sale, after deducting the cost of storage, advertising, selling and other expenses incident to the handling and selling of such property shall be paid into the Town treasury.

### Section 5 Miscellaneous Unclaimed Property

Should any other department or agent of the Town of Litchfield come into possession of unclaimed or abandoned property, the same may be disposed of by delivering such property to the custody of the Chief of Police, who shall thereafter act in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance.

Passed March 16, 1990

Voice Vote