

(9) Investigative powers of the Administrator; penalty for divulging confidential information

A. The Administrator, or any authorized employee, is hereby authorized to examine the books, papers, records and federal income tax returns of any employer or of any taxpayer or person subject to, or whom the Administrator believes is subject to the provisions of this ordinance, for the purpose of verifying the accuracy of any return made, or, if no return was made, to ascertain the tax due under this ordinance. Every such employer, supposed employer, taxpayer or supposed taxpayer is hereby directed and required to furnish upon written request by the Administrator, or his duly authorized agent or employee, the means, facilities, and opportunity for making such examinations and investigations as are hereby authorized.

B. The Administrator is hereby authorized to order any person presumed to have knowledge of the facts to appear before him and may examine such person, under oath, concerning any income which was or should have been reported for taxation or any transaction tending to affect such income, and for this purpose may compel the production of books, papers, records and federal income tax returns and the attendance of all persons before him, whether as parties or witnesses, whenever he believes such persons have knowledge of such information pertinent to such inquiry.

C. The refusal to produce books, papers, records and federal income tax returns, or the refusal to submit to such examination by any employer or person subject or presumed to be subject to the tax or by any officer, agent or employee of a person subject to the tax or required to withhold tax or the failure of any person to comply with the provisions of this section or with an order or subpoena of the Administrator authorized hereby shall be deemed a violation of this ordinance, punishable as provided in § 12 hereof.

D. Any information gained as a result of any returns, investigations, verifications or hearings before the Administrator, required by the ordinance or authorized by these rules and regulations shall be confidential and no disclosure thereof shall be made except for official purposes or as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction. Any person divulging such information shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a maximum fine of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both. Each disclosure shall constitute a separate offense.

In addition to the above penalty, any employee of this municipality who violates the provisions of this section relative to the disclosure of confidential information shall be guilty of an offense punishable by immediate dismissal.

E. Every taxpayer shall retain all records necessary to compute his tax liability for a period of five (5) years from the date his return is filed, or the withholding taxes are paid.

(10) Interest and penalties

A. All taxes imposed and all monies withheld or required to be withheld by employers under the provisions of this ordinance and remaining unpaid after they become due shall bear interest at the rate of one-half of one percent (1/2%) per month or fraction thereof.

B. In addition to interest as provided in paragraph A hereof, penalties based on the unpaid tax are hereby imposed as follows:

1. For failure to pay taxes due - other than taxes withheld; one and one-half percent (1 1/2%) per month or fraction thereof.
2. For failure to remit taxes withheld from employees; five percent (5%) per month or fraction thereof.

C. Exceptions. A penalty shall not be assessed on an additional tax assessment made by the Administrator when a return has been filed in