

ORDINANCE NO. 0-12-25

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF CROCKETT, TEXAS, BY THE AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 13, LICENSES AND BUSINESS REGULATIONS, BY REPLACING AND RESTATING THE ENTIRE SPECIAL EVENTS AND BLOCK PARTY ORDINANCE IN ITS ENTIRETY; PROVIDING DEFINITIONS, PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS, DISTANCE AND IMPACT STANDARDS, CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL, INSURANCE, INDEMNIFICATION, DENIAL AND REVOCATION PROCEDURES, PENALTIES, SEVERABILITY, A REPEALING CLAUSE, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City of Crockett recognizes the importance of providing safe and orderly opportunities for public gatherings, celebrations, festivals, parades, block parties, athletic events, and other activities occurring in parks, streets, sidewalks, and public places; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to ensure that special events are coordinated in a manner that protects public health and safety, maintains emergency access, minimizes traffic disruptions and noise impacts, and ensures responsible use of public resources; and

WHEREAS, the City further recognizes that special event permitting must be based on neutral public safety considerations, without regard to the content, message, or viewpoint of any proposed event; and

WHEREAS, block parties, festivals, parades, and other neighborhood and public events often require advance planning by multiple City departments, including Police, Fire, Public Works, and Parks, and may require the temporary closure or partial use of public rights-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that establishing a uniform and comprehensive ordinance for Special Events promotes consistent enforcement, legal clarity, improved coordination across City departments, and enhanced protection of public health and safety;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CROCKETT, TEXAS:

SECTION I.

Special Events Ordinance Replaced and Restated

Chapter 13 of the Code of Ordinances is hereby amended by replacing Section VII and all related subsections with the following:

SECTION VII. SPECIAL EVENTS

(A) Purpose and Policy

Special Events are temporary activities that may involve gatherings of people, vehicles, vendors, or equipment on public streets, sidewalks, parks, or public places, and may require

coordination with City departments to ensure public health and safety. Special events may include festivals, block parties, parades, athletic events, concerts, celebrations, and promotional activities. No special event shall occur in whole or in part on public property without a permit issued under this Section.

(B) Definitions

(1) Applicant – A person or entity applying for a special event permit.

(2) Special Event – Any organized gathering that impacts public places or requires substantial public services.

(3) Block Party – Neighborhood gathering requiring street closure or public safety resources.

(4) Parade – Procession interfering with normal traffic flow.

(5) Athletic Event – Sporting or racing activity in public right-of-way.

(6) Public Place – Any public street, sidewalk, alley, park, or right-of-way.

(7) Substantial Public Services – Increased police, fire, EMS, traffic, or sanitation services.

(8) Special Event Vendor – Vendor operating within designated event areas.

(D) Administration

The City Administrator and Chief of Police shall, after consultation with appropriate departments and agencies, have discretionary authority regarding special event permits. They may approve, modify, conditionally approve, or deny any special event permit application.

(E) Special Event Permit Required

A special event permit issued by the City Administrator and Chief of Police is required for any special event unless a written agreement with the City provides otherwise. A special event permit is in addition to any other required permits. The City Administrator and Chief of Police shall guide applicants regarding additional necessary permits.

(F) Permit Fee

The fee for issuance of a special event permit is established in the City's Fee Ordinance.

(G) Exemptions

(a) No fee shall be imposed when prohibited by the U.S. Constitution.

(b) No fee applies to a block party solely on private property. Fees may be waived for nonprofit events that further City goals.

(H) Special Event Permit Application

(a) Applications must be filed at least thirty (30) days before the event.

(b) The City Administrator and Chief of Police shall issue the permit after departmental review and applicant agreement to conditions.

(c) Permit decisions are based on departmental recommendations.

(I) Conditions Authorized

The City Administrator and Chief of Police may include reasonable terms for safety, sanitation, traffic control, emergency access, fire protection, noise, and other necessary measures. Conditions must be based on public safety impacts and not event content.

(J) Denial or Revocation of Permit

1. A permit may be denied for reasons including: safety risks, public inconvenience, conflicts with other events, insufficient City staffing, incomplete or false applications, inability to meet requirements, or public interest concerns.

2. A permit may be revoked for material misstatements, failure to meet conditions, dishonored payments, applicant cancellation, or emergency situations requiring cancellation.

(K) Indemnification

Permittee shall indemnify and hold harmless the City, except where injury arises from the sole negligence of the City. A refundable cleanup deposit may be required.

(L) Insurance Required

When required, the applicant must provide liability insurance of at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence naming the City as an additional insured. Certificates must be submitted fifteen (15) working days prior to the event.

(M) Entertainment Areas & Special Event Vendors

The City Administrator and Chief of Police may designate entertainment areas and regulate vendor locations. Vendor permit fees are set by ordinance.

(N) Penalty for Violation

Any violation of this Section is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by fine.

SECTION II. Severability

If any portion of this Ordinance is held invalid, the remainder shall remain in effect.

SECTION III. Repealing Clause

All conflicting ordinances are repealed.

SECTION IV. Effective Date

This Ordinance becomes effective after required publication.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 15th day of December 2025.

CITY OF CROCKETT

BY: _____
DR. IANTHIA FISHER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MITZI STEFKA, CITY SECRETARY

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DONNA GORDON, CITY ATTORNEY