



STAFF REPORT
City of Dripping Springs
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Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Submitted By: Charlie Reed, Farmers Market Manager
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Council Meeting Date: December 3, 2024

Agenda Item Wording: **Discuss and consider approval of an Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances to clarify and enhance the operations and governance of the Farmers Market.**

Purpose and Summary: The attached draft ordinance proposes updates to Article 6.05 of the City of Dripping Springs Code of Ordinances, governing the Farmers Market Committee. This revision aims to address operational inefficiencies, enhance the committee's autonomy, and establish clear criteria for vendor management. These changes are in alignment with Texas Local Government Code Section 51.001, granting cities authority to enact measures for good governance.

Key highlights of the proposed ordinance include:

- Expanded operational autonomy for the Farmers Market Committee.
- Streamlined rules for vendor application approvals, rejections, suspensions, and terminations.
- Defined authority for the Market Manager to issue directives and manage day-to-day operations.

Summary of Key Changes

1. Repeal and Replacement of Article 6.05

- **Previous Regulation:** The article provided general guidance for Farmers Market Committee operations but lacked specificity on decision-making processes and roles.
- **Proposed Update:** Grants the committee autonomy to oversee its operations effectively and implements robust governance mechanisms to ensure accountability.

2. Vendor Management Rules

- **Previous Regulation:** Vendor application and termination processes were unclear and subject to potential inconsistencies.
- **Proposed Update:** Introduces objective standards for:

- Vendor application approval and rejection.
- Suspension or termination of vendor agreements for non-compliance.
- An appeals process to ensure fairness and transparency.

3. Authority of the Market Manager

- **Previous Regulation:** Limited delegation of authority to the Market Manager.
- **Proposed Update:** Authorizes the Market Manager to:
 - Enforce market rules.
 - Issue operational directives.
 - Coordinate with vendors for compliance and efficient market functioning.

5. Amendment to Section 16.02.065(C): Farmers Market Rules

Aligns operational rules with the enhanced governance structure introduced by the proposed ordinance.

**Recommended
Council Actions:**

Staff recommends adoption to improve market operations, support local vendors, and enhance the market's role in the community.

Attachments:

Draft Ordinance