

**ORDINANCE NO. 2021-**

**AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MONTGOMERY, TEXAS, AMENDING CITY ORDINANCE NO. 1996-3, DATED JUNE 4, 1996, BY AMENDING CHAPTER 64, “PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS AND VENDORS” OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY FOR A VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH; PROVIDING A SAVING AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSES; PROVIDING A TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE AFTER PUBLICATION.**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Montgomery, Texas (“Council”) has investigated and determined that Chapter 64, “Peddlers, Solicitors, and Vendors” of the City of Montgomery, Texas (“City”) should be amended and restated in its entirety; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has complied with all notices and public hearings as required by law; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds that it will be advantageous, beneficial and in the best interest of the citizens of the City to amend Chapter 64 “Peddlers, Solicitors, and Vendors” of the City’s Code of Ordinances in its entirety as set forth below.

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

**Section 1.** Findings Incorporated. The findings set forth above are incorporated into the body of this Ordinance as if fully set forth herein.

**Section 2.** Chapter 64 – Peddlers, Solicitors, and Vendors of the City Code of Ordinances, is hereby amended and restated in its entirety, to read as follows:

**Article I. – In General**

**Sec. 64-1. PURPOSE.**

The purpose of this chapter is to protect the public health, safety and general welfare of the citizens of the City by providing for controls and regulations of solicitors, vendors, and similar businesses operating within the City.

**Sec. 64-2. - DEFINITIONS.**

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Display* means to exhibit merchandise in any fashion, including in or upon vehicles, racks, shelves, hangers, or tables or upon the ground.

*Donation and/or Recycling Vendor* means any organization, entity, or individual engaged in the business of accepting textile or household goods for the purpose of reselling or donating accepted items.

*Food establishment* has the same meaning as assigned to that term by Chapter 228 of the Texas Administrative Code.

*Food truck park* means a site or property configured and developed for the purpose of allowing one or more mobile food unit to remain stationary and operating for business. Food truck parks in the City require a Special Use Permit and are subject to all development regulations for food establishments in the City.

*Hawker* means a peddler who makes noise to advertise his merchandise for sale, either by crying, shouting, ringing of bells or other means. The term "hawking" means to engage in the activities of a hawker.

*Merchandise* means goods, wares, services, photographs, magazines, plants, animals, fruit, meat, vegetables or other foods, whether cooked or otherwise, which are not offered for subsequent retail sale.

*Mobile food unit* means a vehicle-mounted, self or otherwise propelled, self-contained food service operation, designed to be readily movable and used to store, prepare, display, serve or sell food. In this article the term is synonymous with the term "mobile food vendor". The term "mobile food unit" shall include, but not be limited to:

1) Mobile food trucks. A mobile food truck is a self-contained motorized unit selling items defined as edible goods.

2) Concession carts. A concession cart is a self-contained unit that is moved by non-motorized means.

3) Concession trailers. A concession trailer is a self-contained unit that is pulled by a motorized unit and has no power to move on its own.

*Peddler* means a person, including his agents or employees, who goes from person to person, place to place or house to house, and who sells or offers to sell merchandise then in his possession. The term "peddling" means to engage in the activities of a peddler.

*Solicitor* means a person, including his agents or employees, who goes from person to person, place to place or house to house, selling, offering for sale or taking orders for the sale of merchandise not then in his possession, or who requests the gift or donation of money, property, services or any other thing of value. The term "soliciting" or "solicitation" means to engage in the activities of a solicitor.

*Street* means the entire width between the boundary lines of every right-of-way publicly maintained, where any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel, including the ditches, drains, median, sidewalk and esplanade thereof, of any public alley, road, street, avenue, parkway or highway which is located within the City.

*Street festival* means any event, activity or entertainment sponsored by any organization, entity, or individual which is attended by twenty-five (25) or more persons and conducted in whole or in part within any street and for which admission may be charged or at which peddling, hawking, soliciting, transient dealing, roadside food vending or operation of a mobile food unit shall occur. The term "street festival" shall not include a rally conducted in support of or opposition to a candidate for political office or a ballot proposition in any election called by a federal, state or local unit of government.

*Transient dealer* means a person, including his agents or employees, who displays and sells or offers to sell merchandise from a fixed location not upon premises which are owned by the person or for which definite arrangements have been made for the lease, hire or rental for a term of at least one month. The term "transient dealing" means to engage in the activities of a transient dealer. *Unattended* means without the continuous presence of a person to personally receive and issue receipts for donated items at the time they are deposited at the UDB.

*Unattended Donation Bin or UDB* mean an unattended bin, container, dumpster or similar receptacle that is placed outdoors at a location visible from a public place for the purpose of receiving and/or temporarily storing donated food, clothing, shoes, toys, or other personal property.

#### **Sec. 64-3. - EXEMPTION FOR INTERSTATE COMMERCE.**

The provisions of this article shall not be deemed applicable to persons engaged in interstate commerce or to any such person to whom application of the provisions of this article would impose a direct and unlawful burden on interstate commerce.

#### **Sec. 64-4. - OPERATION ON PUBLIC PROPERTY.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the business of peddling, hawking, soliciting, transient dealing or roadside food vending within any public street or upon any property owned or leased by the City and located within the City that is not a City-designated location and without a valid permit from the City.

#### **Sec. 64-5. - HOURS OF RESIDENTIAL SOLICITATION.**

It shall be unlawful for any person, except with the express advance consent of the owner, to enter in or upon any home or residential premises within the City to solicit or to sell or offer to sell merchandise, except between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., except when sunset occurs before 7:00 p.m. in which case the permitted hours end at sunset.

#### **Sec. 64-6. – STREET FESTIVALS.**

Street festivals must obtain a permit from the City prior to the use of any public street or upon any property owned or leased by the City. In addition to the requirements of Section 64-31, street festival organizers are required to provide a Certificate of Insurance listing the City of Montgomery as Additional Insured in an amount established by the City. The organizer of the street festival must maintain and provide to the City a list of all vendors at the event that includes sufficient information for each vendor to comply with the permit application requirements of this chapter.

- a) Each applicant for a street festival shall be required to file for a permit application, 30-days prior to the event, with the City Secretary.
- b) The fee for street festival permits shall be \$50.00 with a clean-up deposit of \$200.00 that shall be paid prior to the permit issuance.
- c) The street festival permit applicant shall provide detailed application information including, but not limited to:
  - i. identify organization conducting the event and event coordinator contact information;
  - ii. include any authorization(s) for use of private property, street locations and/or street closure requests;
  - iii. list all activities to be conducted at the event;
  - iv. provide detailed site plan showing how event will be set up;
  - v. provide date and time of on-site preparation and clean-up after the event;
  - vi. if alcohol will be sold, a TABC Permit and proof of host liquor liability insurance shall be provided;
  - vii. if animals or livestock are to be used in conjunction with the event, a handwashing station shall be provided, and the location shown on the site plan; and
  - viii. Certificate of Insurance listing the City of Montgomery as additional insured.
- d) Individual vendors operating under a street festival or special event permit are allowed to operate during festival hours.
- e) The event organizer shall provide a detailed list of all participating vendors. The event vendor list provided to the City shall be complete and include all vendor information required by Section 64-31. Mobile food vendors operating under a street festival or special event permit are not required to obtain a separate food vendor permit from the City of Montgomery. Mobile food vendors are required to submit all information pursuant to Sections 64-31 and 64-33 to the event organizer for review by the City.
- f) The issuance of the street festival or special event permit shall be approved by the City Administrator and coordinated with the Police Chief.
- g) The street festival or special event permit upon approval of the City Administrator shall be issued by the City Secretary.

**Sec. 64-7. – DONATION AND/OR RECYCLING VENDORS.**

- a) It shall be unlawful for any organization, entity, or individual to conduct donation and/or recycling business activities on any public street or upon any property owned or leased by the City. Donation and/or recycling locations operating on private property within the City must provide notarized written consent of the property owner to the City in addition to vendor application requirements found in Sec. 64-31.
- b) Donation and/or recycling locations must be staffed with at least (1) one attendant continuously during operating hours. Donation bins commonly used in industry practices constitute a location of operation. No donation and/or recycling location shall accept donated goods except between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Location facilities shall be secured during non-operating hours in a manner that prevents unauthorized items from being left on site. Failure to properly secure the facility location to prevent unlawful dumping is grounds for immediate revocation of the vendor permit.

**Secs. 64-8—64-28. - RESERVED.**

**Article II. - PERMIT**

**Sec. 64-29. – PERMIT REQUIRED.**

It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the business of peddling, hawking, soliciting, providing donation and/or recycling services of textiles and household goods, transient dealing, or operation of a mobile food unit within the City without having first obtained a permit to engage in such business.

**Sec. 64-30. – CLASSIFICATIONS; TERM; FEE.**

Except as specifically provided by section 64-32, no permit shall be issued pursuant to this article except upon application accompanied by the fee as currently established or as hereafter adopted by resolution of the city council from time to time.

<b>Class</b>	<b>Term</b>
Peddler	6 months
Hawker	6 months
Solicitor	6 months
Transient Dealer	6 months
Mobile Food Unit	6 months or expiration of food service permit, whichever occurs first

**Sec. 64-31. – APPLICATION.**

Each person who shall desire a permit required by this article shall make written application thereof to the City Secretary on a form prescribed by the City Secretary. Each application shall be accompanied by the required application fee. Such application shall provide the following:

- 1) Full name and description of the applicant (a copy of a valid photo ID is required);
- 2) Applicant's address (legal and local);
- 3) If the applicant is the employee or agent of a partnership, firm or joint venture, the location of the principal place of business and the full names and addresses of the authorized officers signing the application thereof. If the applicant is a corporation, the applicant shall state the county and state of the corporate location and the names and addresses of its authorized signers.
- 4) Full name, street address, date of birth and telephone number of each solicitor working under this permit (copy of each solicitor's valid photo ID is required);
- 5) The full name, street address and telephone number of each individual who will be directly in charge or control of the solicitation;
- 6) A full description of the merchandise to be sold or for which the purchase is to be solicited.
- 7) Whether the proposed business is to be conducted door to door or in a fixed location. If in a fixed location, provide the street address or legal property description thereof. If the applicant is not the owner of such location, then the applicant shall also provide the lease, license, or other evidence of permission of the owner to occupy the premises for the purpose of the application.
- 8) Hours of operation and days on which solicitation will occur, if approved;
- 9) The class of permit requested.
- 10) A copy of the sales tax permit issued to the business by the state comptroller's office;
- 11) A statement that the applicant has had no permit issued pursuant to this article revoked in the previous one-year period.
- 12) A statement as to whether or not the applicant has been convicted of any crime, misdemeanor or violation of any municipal ordinance, the nature of the offense and the punishment or penalty assessed thereof;
- 13) Any other information that the City deems necessary for the administration of this article:
  - (a) The application must be signed by the applicant if the person applying is an individual; if the applicant is a partnership, by the partner charged with disbursing funds solicited; if the applicant is a corporation or an association, by its officer charged with dispersing the funds solicited.
  - (b) Information provided by applicant is subject to verification by the police department.

(c) Such application shall also show satisfactory written proof of the individual's authority to represent the company, association or partnership, when applicable.

(d) The application shall be accompanied by all applicable fees, as established by the City. No permit provided for by this division shall be issued until such fees have been paid by the applicant.

#### **Sec. 64-32. - GRANTING OR DENIAL; ISSUANCE; TRANSFER.**

Within ten days of receipt of an application for a permit required by this article, the City Secretary shall grant such application and issue the permit and identification badges required by this article or such application shall be deemed denied. The City Secretary shall grant any application which on its face complies with the provisions set forth in section 64-31 and, if applicable, section 64-33, and shall deny any application which fails to meet such requirements. Upon written request of the applicant, the City Secretary shall set forth in writing the reasons for the denial of any permit. If granted, the City Secretary shall issue to the applicant a permit which shall set forth the permit number, the activity permitted, the effective and expiration dates of the permit and the name of the person to which the permit has been granted, and the name of each person authorized to engage in the permitted activity. No permit shall be assignable.

#### **Sec. 64-33. – SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR MOBILE FOOD UNITS.**

- a) In addition to the requirements of Section 64-31, each applicant for a permit to operate a mobile food unit, including a mobile unit for the sale of frozen desserts, or to engage in roadside food vending, shall provide a copy of a current food service permit issued by the county health department.
- b) Each applicant for a permit to operate a mobile food unit shall, in addition to any other requirements, provide proof of financial responsibility as required by the Texas Motor Vehicle Safety Responsibility Act, V.T.C.A., Transportation Code Chapter 601, Subchapter C (V.T.C.A., Transportation Code § 601.051 et seq.) for each person who shall drive or operate the mobile food unit.
- c) Each permit for operation of a mobile food unit or to engage in roadside food vending shall be conditioned upon continuous compliance with all federal, state and local laws or rules adopted under such laws relating to food service, and the permittee shall at all times prominently display a current food service permit issued by the county health department.
- d) Each permit for operation of a mobile food unit shall be conditioned upon continuous compliance with the following:
  - 1) Each driver or operator of a mobile food unit shall maintain financial responsibility as required by the Texas Motor Vehicle Safety Responsibility Act, V.T.C.A., Transportation Code, Chapter 601;

- 2) No sales shall be made on any street or roadway where posted speed limits are in excess of 30 miles per hour;
- 3) The placement of the mobile food unit shall not create an unsafe situation, impede traffic or visually impair any motor vehicle operation within a parking lot, driveway or street.
- 4) No person shall sell or solicit sales of merchandise from a mobile food unit within 1,000 feet of any public or private school between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.;
- 5) Mobile food units not operating as part of a City-approved street festival or special event are restricted to the following times of operation are based on the electrical power source used by the vendor:
  - a. WITHOUT ELECTRIC GENERATOR (plugged into a constant power source / shore power) – 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. unless operating under a street festival permit in accordance with Sec. 64-6; and
  - b. WITH ELECTRIC GENERATOR (either on-board or externally-mounted with internal combustion engine) – 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. unless operating under a street festival permit in accordance with Sec. 64-6. Electric generators must comply with permissible sound levels in accordance with Chapter 34 of the City Code.
- 6) Mobile food units operating within the City limits shall not remain on the same site or property, whether in operation or not, for longer than two consecutive calendar days. Mobile food units operating as part of a street festival or special event are not subject to this requirement. A mobile food unit not in compliance with this requirement is considered a food establishment and must comply with all City and County requirements for food establishments as well as all City development regulations.
  - a. Any site or property developed or configured to accommodate mobile food units for longer than two consecutive calendar days is considered a Food Truck Park and shall require a Special Use Permit in addition to food establishment and development permitting requirements.
- 7) Mobile food units shall be located within 300-feet of a restroom that is accessible to employees during all hours of operation. Portable toilets of any kind are prohibited. If a restroom is provided on a mobile unit, an additional handwashing facility will be required in the room where toilet is located and an additional separate waste tank.
- 8) A garbage container located on the outside of or adjacent to the mobile unit is required. The garbage container shall be of sufficient size to contain waste generated from patrons and shall be readily accessible. Trash and waste generated from operations inside the mobile food unit is not allowed to be stored outside of the



mobile food unit unless in a City-approved waste collection bin in accordance with Chapter 70 of the City Code of Ordinances.

- 9) The permit issued pursuant to this article shall at all times be conspicuously posted upon the mobile food unit.

**Sec. 64-34. – EXCEPTIONS; CHARITIES; PUBLIC WELL-BEING; LIMITED DURATION ACTIVITIES.**

- a) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary contained in this article, no permit fee shall be charged under section 64-30, with respect to the following:
  - 1) Any charitable institution, organization or association organized and conducted exclusively for charitable purposes, and not for private gain or profit.
  - 2) Any individual, association, organization or other entity conducting or staging any concert, exhibition, lecture, entertainment or dance where the gross profits derived therefrom are used solely for charitable or benevolent purposes and not for the purpose of private gain or profit.
  - 3) Any organization, association or other entity holding any convention in the City and sponsoring any entertainment, dance, concert, exhibition, lecture or other event directly and exclusively connected with such convention, provided that any proceeds realized from such convention are devoted to the purposes of the entity sponsoring the same and are not for the purpose of private gain or profit of any individual or entity.
  - 4) Any service club or organization, such as Kiwanis, Rotary or Lions Clubs, nonprofit automobile clubs, chambers of commerce, trade associations, manufacturers' associations, labor organizations, and similar community or professional service clubs or organizations which do not contemplate the distribution of profits or dividends to the members thereof.
- b) Any person, association, organization or other entity claiming an exemption as provided in Subsection (a) of this Section, shall provide such documentation and/or other evidence as may be required by the City Secretary to substantiate and confirm the exempt status of such person, association, organization or other entity.
- c) All other applicable provisions of this article shall pertain to and be applicable to any such exempted persons, associations, organizations or other entities.

**Sec. 64-35. - REVOCATION.**

- (a) Any permit issued pursuant to this article may be revoked by the City Secretary if he shall determine that such permit was obtained upon the basis of any intentional false material misrepresentation by the applicant, upon any conduct by the permittee, his agents or employees which arises from or is directly related to the permitted activity and which

conduct is a violation of criminal statute, or upon violation by the permittee, his agents or employees of any term or provision of such permit or of this article.

- (b) The City Secretary shall revoke any permit if he shall determine that the permittee, his agents, or employees shall have committed three or more violations of any term or provision of such permit or of this article within the 12-month period immediately preceding such determination, or at any time upon conviction of a violation of any provision of this article.
- (c) Prior to any such revocation, the City Secretary shall provide the permittee notice of any proposed revocation and the grounds therefor and shall afford the permittee an opportunity for hearing. Such notice shall be sufficient if sent to the permittee by registered mail at the address shown on the application for such permit not less than five days prior to the time set forth in such notice of the hearing. Following such hearing, if the City Secretary shall determine that there exist sufficient grounds for revocation of such permit, then such permit shall be deemed immediately revoked.

### **Sec. 64-36. - APPEALS.**

Any person to whom the City Secretary shall have denied a permit or whose permit shall have been revoked under this article may appeal such denial or revocation to an appeal board consisting of the mayor, the City Attorney and the City Secretary. Such appeal shall be made in writing and filed with the City Secretary not more than five days following such denial or revocation by the City Secretary. Within five days of the filing of such appeal, the City Secretary shall provide notice of the appeal hearing to the appealing party, which notice shall be sufficient if sent to the address of such appealing party as shown on the application for the permit. Following such hearing, if the appeal board shall determine that there exist sufficient grounds for denial or revocation of any such permit, then the decision of the City Secretary shall be deemed final. If the appeal board shall determine that sufficient grounds do not exist for denial or revocation, then the decision of the City Secretary shall be reversed and such permit shall be granted or reinstated.”

**Section 3.** This amendment to Ordinance No. 1996-3, dated June 4, 1996, as codified in Section 64-2 and Section 64-33 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Montgomery, Montgomery County, Texas, shall prevail and all other Ordinances in conflict are hereby repealed to the extent of any conflict.

**Section 4.** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, provision or part of this Ordinance shall be held invalid for any reason, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby but shall remain in full force and effect.

**Section 5.** It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Ordinance was considered was open to the public as required and that public notice of the time, place and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, of the Texas Government Code.

**Section 6.** This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force after its publication as provided by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Montgomery, Texas, on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

THE CITY OF MONTGOMERY, TEXAS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sara Countryman, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Hensley, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alan P. Petrov, City Attorney