

1 CITY OF ROLLINGWOOD, TEXAS
2
3 ORDINANCE NO. 2025-XX-XX-XX
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6 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ROLLINGWOOD, TEXAS,
7 AMENDING CHAPTER 107, ARTICLE I TO ADD SECTION 107-5
8 (RESIDENTIAL LIGHTING MANUAL) AND ARTICLE II, DIVISION 2,
9 SECTION 107-81 (EXTERIOR LIGHTING REQUIREMENTS);
10 PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE, REPEALING CONFLICTING LAWS
11 AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

12 WHEREAS, the City of Rollingwood is a General Law Type A City under the statutes of
13 the State of Texas; and

14 WHEREAS, the Texas Local Government Code authorizes a municipality to adopt zoning
15 regulations regarding the location and use of buildings, other structures, and land for business,
16 industrial, residential, or other purposes; and

17 WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing and made a
18 recommendation to City Council on an amendment to the Zoning Code; and
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20 WHEREAS, hereby finds and determines that the recommendation of the Planning and
21 Zoning Commission is consistent with and does promote the public health, safety, morals, and
22 general welfare of the Community; and
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24 WHEREAS, the City Council hereby finds and determines that the recommendation of
25 the Planning and Zoning Commission is consistent with the general plan for the City; and
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27 WHEREAS, the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 217 authorizes a general law
28 municipality to define and declare what constitutes a nuisance; and
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30 WHEREAS, the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 217 authorizes a general law
31 municipality to abate and remove a nuisance and punish by fine the person responsible for the
32 nuisance; and
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34 WHEREAS, the operation of outdoor lighting that violates established lighting standards
35 or ordinances creates a public nuisance, particularly when the lighting, disturbs the peace and quiet
36 enjoyment of neighboring properties; constitutes a safety hazard; interferes with the community's
37 aesthetic or environmental quality; or creates significant light pollution affecting residents,
38 businesses, or the broader natural environment.
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40 WHEREAS, the City has complied with all conditions precedent necessary to take this
41 action, has properly noticed and conducted all public hearings and public meetings pursuant to the
42 Texas Local Government Code and Texas Government Code, as applicable.
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44 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF**
45 **ROLLINGWOOD, TEXAS, THAT:**

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47 **SECTION 1.** All the above premises are hereby found to be true and correct legislative
48 and factual findings of the City Council and are hereby approved and incorporated into the body
49 of this Ordinance as if copied in their entirety.

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51 **SECTION 2.** The City’s Code of Ordinances Chapter 107, Zoning is amended to add
52 Article 1, Section 107-5 Residential Lighting Manual and Article II, Division 2, Section 107-81
53 Exterior Lighting Requirements as follows:
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55 **Sec. 107-5. Residential lighting manual**

56 The Residential Lighting Manual is a supporting document to the applicable
57 lighting regulations contained in this Chapter and the Code of Ordinances of the
58 City of Rollingwood and may contain illustrations, graphical representations, and
59 examples. The Residential Lighting Manual may be adopted and updated from time
60 to time by resolution approved by the City Council.

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62 **Sec. 107-81. Exterior Lighting requirements.**

63 (a) Definitions: As used herein:

- 64 (1) "Shielded" means "installed in such a manner that all light emitted by the
65 fixture, either directly from the bulb or a diffusing element, or indirectly by
66 reflection or refraction from any part of the fixture, is projected below the
67 horizontal plane immediately beneath the fixture's lowest light-emitting part."
68 See exhibit in the Residential Lighting Manual for examples of conforming
69 and nonconforming light fixtures.
- 70 (2) "Footcandle" as used herein shall mean: The illuminance produced on a
71 surface one foot from a uniform point source of one candela and equal to one
72 lumen per square foot.
- 73 (3) "String Lights" means electric lights affixed to a wire, string, or cable,
74 typically used for decorative purposes and often designed for temporary or
75 festive installations, such as holiday lighting, patio ambiance, or special
76 events.

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78 (b) Applicability.

- 79 (1) The regulations contained in this section are applicable to outdoor lighting
80 fixtures installed on structures within the residential zoning districts of the
81 City.
- 82 (2) All outdoor lighting fixtures existing and legally installed and operating
83 before the effective date of this section, or installed pursuant to a permit
84 approved prior to the effective date of this Section, shall be brought into
85 conformance with this Section upon the earlier of: (1) an application for a site

86 plan or building permit for construction of a new building or modification of
87 50% or more of an existing structure, or (2) replacement or modification of an
88 existing non-conforming fixture.

89
90 (c) Exemptions. The following are exempt from the provisions of this section:

- 91 (1) Publicly maintained traffic control devices;
- 92 (2) Street lights installed prior to the effective date of this section;
- 93 (3) Temporary emergency lighting (fire, police, repair crews);
- 94 (4) Lighting fixtures and illumination requirements imposed by TxDOT within
95 TxDOT rights of way (ROW);
- 96 (5) Moving vehicle lights;
- 97 (6) Navigation lights (aircraft warning beacons on water towers and wireless
98 transmission facilities) required by State or Federal law;
- 99 (7) Signs and associated lighting that conform to the city's sign regulations in
100 Chapter 24;
- 101 (8) Seasonal decorations with lights in place illuminated no longer than sixty (60)
102 days; and
- 103 (9) Other temporary uses approved by the City Council (festivals, carnivals, fairs,
104 night-time construction);
- 105 (10) Unshielded decorative lights meeting the standard (not exceeding .25
106 footcandle which mimic natural gas flickering lights;
- 107 (11) Uplighting in trees not to exceed 50 lumens from source reflection or support
108 structures, provided that the light source shall not be visible from the horizontal
109 plane, i.e. the luminaire must be fully shielded; and
- 110 (12) String Lights provided that the emission of such lighting does not exceed 125
111 lumens per linear foot of line or square foot of space. These lights must be rated
112 at or below 3000 Kelvin and can only be turned on between sunset and
113 midnight.

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115 (d) General Standards. The following standards shall apply to all outdoor lighting
116 installed after the effective date of this section:

- 117 (1) Except for street lighting in public right of way, all exterior fixtures over
118 1,000 initial lamp lumens must be hooded or shielded so that the light source
119 is not directly visible from adjacent properties or properties within 250 ft of
120 light source. As directed by city building official a submittal of exterior light
121 fixtures shall be included with the building permit plans that includes lumens
122 output, color temperature and a physical description.
- 123 (2) Lighting must have a color temperature of no more than 3000 Kelvins (K).
- 124 (3) Exterior lighting may not exceed .25 footcandle across the source property

- 125 line.
- 126 (4) No light or illumination that flashes, moves, scrolls rotates, scintillates, blinks,
127 flickers, varies in intensity or color, or uses intermittent electrical pulsations
128 is permitted other than low voltage lights permitted under item 8 above for
129 the limited period allowed in C8. Light fixtures may be controlled by a motion
130 detector that deactivates fixtures after no more than 15 minutes.
- 131 (5) Light fixtures shall be controlled a timer that restricts activation to night time
132 use only.
- 133 (6) Private walkway light fixtures shall not exceed 385 lumens each.
- 134 (7) Lighting within Required Yards. No light fixtures shall be installed in any
135 required yard area, as defined in Section 107-76 of the Zoning ordinance,
136 except for lighting installed in accordance with (6) above and for two light
137 fixtures at a driveway entrance.
- 138 (8) Landscape/yard lighting. Light fixtures used for illuminating landscape
139 features shall not be used after 11:00 PM. Individual Fixtures shall not exceed
140 530 lumens.

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142 (e) Enforcement. The city shall have the power to administer and enforce the
143 provisions of this Section, as provided in this Chapter. Any violation of this Section
144 is hereby declared to be a nuisance. A civil penalty of up to \$2,000 for each day a
145 violation occurs may be assessed when it is shown that the defendant was actually
146 notified of the provisions of this article and after receiving notice failed to take
147 action necessary for compliance with this article.

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150 **SECTION 3.** All provisions of the ordinances of the City of Rollingwood in conflict with
151 the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict, and all other
152 provisions of the City of Rollingwood ordinances not in conflict with the provisions of this
153 ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

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155 **SECTION 4.** Should any sentence, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase or section of
156 this ordinance be adjudged or held to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, the same shall not
157 affect the validity of this ordinance, or any part or provision thereof other than the part so decided
158 to be invalid, illegal or unconstitutional, and shall not affect the validity of the Code of Ordinances
159 as a whole.

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161 **SECTION 5.** This ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage and
162 the publication of the caption, as the law and charter in such cases provide.

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164 **APPROVED, PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Rollingwood, Texas,
165 on the _____ day of _____ 2024.

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APPROVED:

Gavin Massingill, Mayor

ATTEST:

Makayla Rodriguez, City Secretary

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