

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-17

ADOPT, ON FIRST READING, ORDINANCE 2024-17, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TOMBALL, TEXAS AMENDING ITS CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING CHAPTER 18-ENVIRONMENT, ARTICLE IV.-NOISE, BY DELETING SECTION 18-192.-MAXIMUM SOUND LEVELS AND MODIFYING SECTION 18-195.-DEFENSES; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY OF AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000 FOR EACH DAY OF VIOLATION OF ANY PROVISION HEREOF; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, MAKING FINDINGS OF FACT; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

* * * * *

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Tomball, Texas, finds that it is in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens to amend the City’s noise regulations as set forth herein; now therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TOMBALL, TEXAS:

Section 1. The facts and matters contained in the preamble to this ordinance are hereby found to be true and correct.

Section 2. The Code of Ordinances is amended by deleting Chapter 18-Environment, Article IV.-Noise, Section 18-192.-Maximum sound levels as follows:

Sec. 18-192. Maximum sound levels.

(a) ~~All industrial or commercial businesses within the city limits shall conform to the maximum sound levels as set out in this section. Sound levels shall be measured with a sound level meter and an associated octave band analyzer, both manufactured in accordance with the specifications prescribed by the American Standards Association. Noise emission from any commercial or industrial operation shall not cause sound pressure levels greater than those listed in the table below, measured at any point at the commercial or industrial operation's boundary, either at ground level or at a habitable elevation, whichever is more restrictive.~~

Octave Band Center Frequency (HZ)	Sound Pressure Level (dB)*
31.5	85
63	71
125	61
250	52
500	47
1000	44
2000	39
4000	37
8000	35

~~*re: 0.0002 microbar~~

(b) ~~The sound level produced by any industry shall not exceed the limits established in this section.~~

Section 3. The Code of Ordinances is amended by modifying Chapter 18-Environment, Article IV.-Noise, Section 18-195.-Defenses as follows:

Sec. 18-195. Defenses.

The following defenses shall apply to any offense established in this article:

- (1) The emission of any sound was for the purpose of alerting persons to the existence of an emergency, danger, or attempted crime.
- (2) The sound was produced by an authorized emergency vehicle.
- (3) The sound was produced by emergency work.
- (4) The sound was generated:
 - a. At a lawfully scheduled stadium event;
 - b. By a parade and spectators and participants on the parade route during a lawful parade;
 - ~~c. By spectators and participants at lawfully scheduled amphitheater event;~~
 - d. By patrons and participants using cannons and gunfire during historical battle re-enactments for which a pyrotechnic permit was obtained and the explosives were inspected by the fire marshal;
 - e. By a pyrotechnic display that was inspected and approved by the fire marshal; or
 - f. By spectators and participants of an event, fun run, race, festival, fiesta, or concert that was sponsored or cosponsored by the city.

Section 4. Any person who shall intentionally, knowingly, recklessly or with criminal negligence violate any provision of this Ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction, shall be fined in an amount not to exceed \$2,000. Each day of violation shall constitute a separate offense.

Section 5. In the event any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase, provision, sentence, or part of this Ordinance or the application of the same to any person or circumstance shall for any reason be adjudged invalid or held unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, it shall not affect, impair, or invalidate this Ordinance as a whole or any part or provision hereof other than any part or provision hereof other than the part declared to be invalid or unconstitutional; and the City Council of Tomball, Texas, declares that it would have passed each and every part of the same notwithstanding the omission of any and every part of the same notwithstanding the omission of any such part thus declared to be invalid or unconstitutional, or

whether there be one or more parts.

Section 6. Any person who shall intentionally, knowingly, recklessly or with criminal negligence violate any provision of this Ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction, shall be fined in an amount not to exceed \$2,000. Each day of violation shall constitute a separate offense.

FIRST READING:

READ, PASSED AND APPROVED AS SET OUT BELOW AT THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TOMBALL HELD ON THE 3RD DAY OF JUNE 2024.

COUNCILMAN FORD	<u>YEA</u>
COUNCILMAN GARCIA	<u>YEA</u>
COUNCILMAN DUNAGIN	<u>YEA</u>
COUNCILMAN COVINGTON	<u>YEA</u>
COUNCILMAN PARR	<u>YEA</u>

SECOND READING:

READ, PASSED, AND ORDAINED AS SET OUT BELOW AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TOMBALL, HELD ON THE 17TH DAY OF JUNE 2024.

COUNCILMAN FORD	_____
COUNCILMAN GARCIA	_____
COUNCILMAN DUNAGIN	_____
COUNCILMAN COVINGTON	_____
COUNCILMAN PARR	_____

LORI KLEIN QUINN, Mayor
City of Tomball

ATTEST:

Tracy Garcia, City Secretary
City of Tomball