

ORDINANCE NO. 2026- 9

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 961 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WILLOWICK, OHIO, TITLED “NOXIOUS WEEDS AND LITTER;” SPECIFICALLY, AMENDING SECTION 961.03, TITLED “WRITTEN NOTICE TO DESTROY WEEDS, REMOVE LITTER” AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLOWICK, COUNTY OF LAKE, STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. Chapter 961 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Willowick, Ohio titled “NOXIOUS WEEDS AND LITTER;” specifically, Section 961.03 “WRITTEN NOTICE TO DESTROY WEEDS, REMOVE LITTER” is hereby amended to read and provide as follows:

(a) The Director of Public Service, or the Chief Building Inspector or his or her designee, upon information that noxious weeds, grass or other types of vegetation have not been cut as required by Section 961.01, shall issue a written notice of violation to the resident owner, lessee, agent or tenant having charge of, or the responsibility of maintenance of the lots or land by securely affixing a copy of the violation to a door at the residence where the violation has occurred and by sending a copy of the violation to the address at which the violation has occurred. Service of notice shall be made upon nonresidents by regular U.S. mail. Said notice of violation shall include information that the noxious weeds, grass or other types of vegetation shall be cut within five working days from the date that the notice by mailing is received or the date when delivery of the notice is completed at the residence, whichever event occurs earlier in point of time.

(b) The Director of Public Service, or the Chief Building Inspector or his or her designee, upon information that litter has been allowed to accumulate in violation of Section 961.02, shall issue a notice of violation to the owner and, if different, upon the lessee, agent or tenant having charge of or responsibility for maintenance of lots or lands by securely affixing a copy of the violation to a door at the residence where the violation has occurred and by sending a copy of the violation to the address at which the violation has occurred. Said notice of violation shall include information that the litter shall be removed within ~~fourteen~~ **five** days of the date of the notice of violation.

(c) If the address of the owner, lessee, agent or tenant having charge of or responsibility for such lands is unknown, it is sufficient to publish the notice once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county.

(d) Every notice either to cut weeds or remove litter shall state that if the notice is not complied with within the time limit provided therein, in addition to the penalty provided in Section 961.99, costs incurred by the City in cutting such growth or removing such litter shall be entered upon the tax duplicate and shall be a lien upon such lands. (Ord. 81-72. Passed 1-19-82.)

(e) In the event that a violation(s) occurs as set forth in subsections (a) or (b) above on a vacant lot without an assigned address, the notice of the violation, including information that the violation shall be corrected within ~~fourteen~~ **ten** days of the date of the notice, shall be sent by regular U.S. mail to the owner's address listed in the Lake County records.

(f) The notice of violation provision set forth in subsection (a) above shall be issued to the resident owner, lessee, agent or tenant having charge of, or the responsibility of maintenance of the lots or land one time per calendar year, and said notice of violation shall be effective for each subsequent event in which the noxious weeds and/or litter appear and violate the provisions of Chapter 963 for the remainder of that calendar year.

Section 2. The existing Section 961.03 of the City’s Codified Ordinances are hereby repealed in that said Section and is suspended by this legislation.

Section 3. All formal actions of this Council concerning the passage of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting, and that all deliberations of this Council, or any of its Committees, which resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Chapter 107 of the Codified Ordinances and Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 4. This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, welfare and dignity of the residents of the City of Willowick and therefore shall be in full force and take effect immediately upon its passage by Council and its approval by the Mayor, or at the earliest period allowed by law.

WHEREFORE, this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage by Council and approval by the Mayor.

Adopted by Council _____

Monica Koudela, Council President

Submitted to the Mayor: _____

Approved by the Mayor: _____, 2026

Michael Vanni, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Alyssa Moran, Clerk of Council