

ARTICLE XIV. VENDORS.

Sec. 9-1400. LICENSE REQUIRED.

It shall be unlawful for any vendor to sell, display or offer for sale any food, beverage, goods or merchandise within the city of Montpelier without first obtaining a vendor's license therefor as provided herein.

Sec. 9-1401. DEFINITIONS.

(a) "Vendor" shall mean any person, including an employee or agent of another, who sells or offers to sell food, beverages, personal services, goods or merchandise on any public street or sidewalk from a stand, motor vehicle or from his or her person, or one who travels by foot, wagon, motor vehicle, pushcart or any other method of transportation from house or street to street selling or offering to sell food, beverages, personal services, goods or merchandise.

(b) "Stand" shall mean any newsstand, table, bench, booth, rack, handcart, pushcart or any other fixture or device which is not required to be licensed and registered as a motor vehicle, used for the display, storage, promotion or transportation of articles or personal services, offered for sale by a vendor.

(c) "Public Street or Sidewalk" shall include all areas legally open to public use as public streets, sidewalks, roadways, highways, parkways, alleys, public parking spaces and any other public way.

Sec. 9-1402. APPLICATION.

The application for a vendor's license shall be submitted to the City Clerk for approval by the City Council on forms provided therefor and contain all information relevant and necessary to determine whether a vendor's license may be issued, including but not limited to:

- (a) Proof of the identity and business address of the applicant.
- (b) A brief description of the nature, character and quality of the food, beverages, personal services, goods or merchandise to be sold.
- (c) If employed by another, the name and business address of the person, firm, association, organization, company or corporation.
- (d) If a motor vehicle is to be used in the conduct of a vending business, a description of the vehicle together with the motor vehicle registration number and the license number; provided, however, that no vendor shall conduct business from any public parking space.
- (e) A description of the proposed location(s) of the vending business and the length of time during which it is proposed that the business shall be conducted at each location.

(f) Proof of a valid and current state license for the type of business activity for which a license under this ordinance is sought.

(g) Acknowledgment that issuance and maintenance of a vendor's license by the vendor shall be subject to review by the Chief of Police and Health Officer.

Sec. 9-1403. FEES.

An applicant for a license under Sec. 9-1402 shall pay an annual license fee of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) per vendor.

Sec. 9-1404. INSURANCE.

No vendor's license shall be issued to an applicant unless the applicant furnishes proof to the City Clerk of a public liability bond or insurance policy in an amount not less than \$100,000 for property damage and injuries, including injury resulting in death, caused by the operation of the vending business.

Sec. 9-1405. LICENSES.

The license issued to a vendor shall be carried with the vendor while he or she is engaged in the business of vending.

Sec. 9-1406. RESTRICTIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL VENDORS.

(a) Stands. Vendor's stands shall not:

- (1) Exceed eight feet in length, three feet in width, or eight feet in height;
- (2) Impede pedestrian or vehicular travel, or access to the entrance of any adjacent building or driveway;
- (3) Occupy more than half of the available sidewalk width or four feet of such sidewalk, whichever is less;
- (4) Locate within five feet of a crosswalk, fire hydrant, fire escape, bus stop, loading zone, driveway, or entrance of any building; or
- (5) Locate within fifty feet of any other vendor or business establishment offering for sale goods or merchandise of substantially the same type as that being offered for sale by the licensed vendor.

(b) Hours of Operation. Vendors shall be allowed to engage in the business of vending only between 7:00 A.M. and 10:00 P.M., except that those vendors who conduct their business by going door-to-door shall be allowed to operate only between 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M.. All vending stands must be removed from public property during non-vending hours.

(c) Handicapped Areas. No vendor shall conduct business within five feet of any handicapped parking space or access ramp.

(d) Removal of Trash. All trash or debris accumulating within fifty feet of any vending stand shall be collected by the vendor and deposited in a trash container.

Sec. 9-1407. SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSE.

(a) Any license issued under this ordinance may be suspended or revoked by the City Council after due notice to the licenses and hearing, for any of the following reasons:

- (1) Fraud or misrepresentation in the application for the license.
- (2) Fraud or misrepresentation in the course of conducting the business of vending.
- (3) Conducting the business of vending contrary to the conditions of the license.
- (4) Conducting the business of vending in such a manner as to create a public nuisance or breach of the peace, or constitute a danger to the public health, safety or welfare.

(b) Upon suspension or revocation, the City shall deliver written notice to the licensee stating the action taken and the reasons supporting such action. The written notice shall be delivered to the licensee's place of business or mailed to the licensee's last known address.

Sec. 9-1408. APPEALS.

Persons who are denied licenses or whose licenses have been suspended or revoked may appeal by filing a written notice of appeal with the Washington Superior Court. The appeal must be filed within thirty (30) days after receipt of the notice of denial, suspension or revocation.

Sec. 9-1409. RENEWALS.

Application for renewal of licenses issued under Sections 9-1405 or 9-1412 shall be made to and received by the City Clerk within fifteen (15) days prior to the expiration of such license. The City Clerk shall review each application for renewal to determine that:

- (a) The applicant is in full compliance with the provisions of this ordinance.
- (b) The applicant has a currently effective insurance policy naming the City as an additional insured in the minimum amount provided for in Section 9-1404. If the City Clerk finds that the application meets the above requirements, the City Clerk shall issue a new permit.

Sec. 9-1410. EXCEPTIONS.

(a) The provisions of this ordinance shall not apply to a vendor who sells or offers for sale, in person or by his employees or agents, newspapers.

(b) The provisions of this ordinance shall not apply to sales made by manufacturers, merchants and dealers for resale only.

Sec. 9-1411. RELIGIOUS, CHARITABLE, EDUCATIONAL AND SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS.

Authorized representatives of religious, charitable, educational or service organizations desiring to solicit money, to sell products of the land, or to distribute literature shall be exempt from the payment of any fee hereunder, but shall be required to submit in writing to the City Clerk the name and purpose of the cause for which such activity is sought, the name and address of the immediate director of such activity, and the period during which such activity is to be carried on in the city of Montpelier. If the City Clerk, after investigation, shall find that the organization is a bona fide charitable, religious, educational or service organization, the Clerk shall issue, free of charge, a license to carry on such activity. Such license shall cover all persons engaged in the activity for which the license was issued. Organizations designated as religious or exempt under Sections 501(c), 501(d), 501(e), 521, 527 or 528 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or subsequent enactments, shall be exempted from the payment of the fee imposed under Section 9-1403, provided that no license issued hereunder shall be of a duration in excess of fifteen (15) consecutive days. Organizations not found to be exempt as defined above shall be responsible for the full fee.

Sec. 9-1412. SPECIAL EVENT LICENSE.

(a) The City Council may issue special vendor's licenses to be used in conjunction with a special event. Such licenses shall be valid for no more than three (3) consecutive days designated for the event by the City Council.

(b) The fee for a special vendor's license shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each day for which it is valid, provided that any organizations in Section 9-1411 shall be exempt from the payment of any fee imposed hereunder.

(c) The City Council shall require the sponsor of any special event to administer all applications for multiple special vendor's licenses under this section.

Sec. 9-1413. SPECIAL TRANSIENT VENDOR LICENSE.

In lieu of the license required under Section 9-1400, the City Clerk may issue a thirty (30) day license to a person selling or offering for sale or soliciting orders for the sale of services, goods or merchandise from premises occupied temporarily as a tenant, lessee, guest or invitee. Such license shall be valid only between the dates specified thereon, and the person applying for such a license shall comply with and be subject to all the provisions of Sections 9-1402, 9-1404, 9-1405, 9-1407, 9-1408 and 9-1410. An applicant for a license under this section shall pay a license fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00). As used in this section, the term "merchandise" shall include plants and other agricultural or forest products.

Sec. 9-1414. LOUD NOISES AND SIGNS.

No vendor or transient vendor, nor any person on their behalf, shall shout, make any cry out, blow a horn, ring a bell, or use any sound device, including any loud speaking radio or sound amplifying system upon any of the streets, alleys, parks or other public places of this city or upon any private premises in the city where a sound of sufficient volume is emitted or produced therefrom to be capable of being plainly heard upon the streets, avenues, alleys, parks, or other public places, or parade with a sign or placard, for the purpose of attracting attention to any goods, wares or merchandise which such license proposes to sell. If any signs or displays are put up, they shall be removed.

Sec. 9-1415. VENDING MACHINES.

No vending machine or other dispensing device shall be placed or maintained, either permanently or temporarily, upon any City property, including any street, highway or sidewalk, without the prior approval of the City Council. In considering and acting upon a request for the placement of and maintenance of such vending machine or dispensing device, the City Council may impose reasonable fees, conditions and standards.

CHARTER REFERENCES: T. 3, Sec. 17(I); T. 3, Sec. 17(IV), 1955 Charter.

STATE LAW REFERENCES: Peddlers, V.S.A., T. 32, Sec. 9301 et seq.; itinerant vendors, V.S.A., T. 32, Sec. 9201 et seq.

Sec's. 9-1416 to 9-1499. Reserved.

Enacted September 13, 1972.

Amendment enacted July 28, 1976 [Sec. 9-1405 rewritten]. Date of Publication: 8/02/76. Effective Date: 8/09/76.

Amendment enacted October 11, 1978 [Sec's. 9-1405 and 9-1407 rewritten]. Date of Publication: 10/18/78. Effective Date: 10/24/78.

Amendment enacted May 27, 1981 [Sec. 9-1409 added]. Date of Publication: 6/03/81. Effective Date: 6/09/81.

Amendment enacted May 26, 1982 [Sec. 9-1405, fee increased]. Date of Publication: 6/09/82. Effective Date: 6/16/82.

Amendment enacted January 12, 1983 [Sec's. 9-1410 and 9-1411 added]. Date of Publication: 1/18/83. Effective Date: 1/25/83.

Amendment enacted March 14, 1984 [Sec. 9-1412 added]. Date of Publication: 3/24/84. Effective Date: 3/31/84.

Amendment enacted April 9, 1985 [Sec. 9-1405, rate increased]. Date of Publication: 4/15/85. Effective Date: 4/22/85.

Amendment enacted October 23, 1985 [Sec. 9-1413 added]. Date of Publication: 10/31/85. Effective Date: 11/06/85.

Amendment enacted October 11, 1989 [Article XIV repealed and replaced]. Date of Publication: 10/17/89. Effective Date: 10/23/89.

Amendment enacted May 12, 2004 [Sec. 9-1412, fee increased]. Date of Publication: 5/27/04. Effective Date: 6/02/04.