

Ordinance No. 2566

ORDINANCE TO AMEND CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 12,
ARTICLE IV SPECIAL EVENTS

WHEREAS, the City is in the process of updating its ordinances pertaining to special events; and

WHEREAS, the Biloxi City Council finds that it is in the best interests of the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Biloxi that Chapter 12, Article IV Special Events be amended;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI:

SECTION ONE: That Chapter 12, Article IV Special Events be amended as follows:

Sec. 12-4-5 – Permit required; exemptions.

Any persons desiring to conduct or sponsor an assembly or other special event in the city shall first obtain a special event permit application from the Special Events Coordinator. A special event permit is NOT required for the following:

- (1) Any event not anticipated to impact public services regularly provided in the city or in excess of the number of persons normally using the licensed business places, community buildings (such as schools or churches), parks or other public places, parking area or traffic flow.
- (2) Funeral processions and wedding services.
- (3) Any event occurring at a municipality owned or managed indoor venue or any event for which a separate agreement with the City has been executed. However, any mobile food vendors as defined in Section 12-12-2, or Vendor defined in Section 12-4-3(d), shall still be required to apply for permitting under those sections, or secure appropriate permissions and permits from a sponsoring applicant that will ensure compliance by such vendors.
- (4) Events taking place on the Mississippi Coast Coliseum and Convention Center unless the event's anticipated attendance over the course of the event will exceed 15,000 persons, the event exceeds those public services normally drawn upon (health, sanitation, fire, police, transportation, utilities, etc.), and the event will create vehicle congestion on adjacent roadways.

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Sec. 12-4-16. – Fees.

- (a) The special events coordinator shall classify each application according to the following criteria:
 - (1) The anticipated amount of extra personnel that shall be required to be furnished by the city to accomplish the necessary public and sanitation components of the special event. By agreement, as endorsed upon the permit or in a separate contract, the application may furnish some of the personnel required; and the anticipated personnel requirements for classification purposes shall be considered as reduced accordingly;
 - (2) The type and amount of city services required other than extra personnel hours; and
 - (3) The anticipated number of attendants over the entire period of the special event.
- (b) Nonrefundable application fees due at the time of submission are as follows:
 - (1) Tier 1: \$1,000.00.
 - (2) Tier 2: \$500.00.
 - (3) Tier 3: \$250.00.
 - (4) Tier 4: \$100.00.
 - (5) Tier 5: \$25.00.
- (c) Permit fees due after approval of special event application shall not exceed the following amounts for each tier:
 - (1) Tier 1: \$5,000.00.
 - (2) Tier 2: \$2,500.00.
 - (3) Tier 3: \$1,000.00.
 - (4) Tier 4: \$250.00.
 - (5) Tier 5: N/A.
- (d) If a special event permit is approved, the applicant may obtain such permit by agreeing to accept the classification and conditions imposed by the permit issuing authority and by paying the applicable fee. The application fee of approved special event applications will be offset against the permit fees due.

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- (e) Any Tier 1 special event shall reimburse the city for up to 10% of the cost of extra personnel hours and services in addition to the initial permit fee requiring in excess of the extra personnel hours and city services set forth or anticipated in the application and endorsed on the permit may be required to reimburse to the city for the cost of such excess personnel hours and services in addition to the initial permit fee.
- (f) If applicant requests financial or in-kind support from the city, the city council shall have the authority to offset subsection 12-4-16(c) fees against such financial or in-kind support, upon proper presentation of benefits to the city, whether economic or otherwise.
- (g) The special event committee may waive any applicable fees depending upon the anticipated attendance, personnel hours, and city services required for events that are for the primary purpose of exercising the right to assemble or freedom of speech.
- (h) Any application or permit fees under this section shall be reduced by any municipal facility rental fees or equipment rental fees.

SECTION TWO: Upon unanimous vote of the members of the City Council, this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after passage, because it serves the public peace, health and safety of the citizens of Biloxi, and good cause exists for same. If not a unanimous vote this Ordinance shall become effective as soon thereafter as is signed, certified, and as is otherwise provided by law.

The foregoing Ordinance having first been reduced to writing, was read by the Clerk and moved by Councilmember Glavan, seconded by Councilmember Gines, and was adopted by the following vote:

YEAS:	Gines	Tisdale	NAYS:	None
	Newman	Glavan		
	McGilvary	Shoemaker		

ABSENT: Lawrence

The President then declared the Ordinance adopted this the 22nd day of October, 2024.



ATTEST:

Kevin Campbell

 CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

APPROVED:

Paul L. Tisdale

 PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

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Submitted to and approved by the Mayor, this the 29th day of October, 2024.

APPROVED:



MAYOR