

CITY OF LEWISTON
EMERGENCY ORDINANCE

The City of Lewiston hereby finds as follows:

Amending Section 22-36, Licenses denied; appeal, to Waive the Requirement that Business License Applicants are Current on All Amounts Owed the City.

Whereas, City ordinances currently require that no license or permit be issued to any person who is indebted to the city on any account that is 60 days delinquent; and

Whereas, as we approach the date on which additional businesses will be reopening, some will be required to renew their license to operate; and

Whereas, many of these businesses will have suffered economic hardship given the requirement that they close or reduce their operations due to the current pandemic emergency; and

Whereas, the City has determined that it is in the best interest of the City and these businesses to allow them to obtain the required operating license even if the City is owed other amounts such as overdue property taxes; and

Whereas, given the state of emergency and the significance of its economic fallout, it is necessary to adopt this amendment as an emergency in order to allow certain businesses to resume operation;

Now, therefore, the City of Lewiston hereby ordains

That an emergency exists due to the effect of the current pandemic on the economy, the ability of businesses to operate, and the difficulty that the owners of businesses are facing in meeting their financial obligations as they work to re-establish normal business operations. Given this, the following amendment to Section 22-36 (a) of the Code of Ordinances shall become effective immediately upon its passage:

Sec. 22-36. Licenses denied; appeal.

- (a) No license or permit shall be issued by the city clerk following a hearing at which the city council has disapproved any application for such license. The city clerk shall deny a license or permit to any person whose application was disapproved by any city official whose approval was required. No license or permit shall be issued to any person who is indebted to the city upon any claim, tax or account which is more than 60 days delinquent-, except for the period from June 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021 during which time this requirement shall be waived. The city treasurer shall be responsible for making available to the city clerk and any other license-issuing officers such information as is essential for compliance with this section. In case an application is disapproved, the city clerk shall then notify the applicant in writing of such denial and shall refund the fee paid in. The city clerk shall also notify the city council of such action at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the city council.

Deletions are ~~struck through~~; additions are underlined.