

**ORDINANCE NO. 2020-07**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR, TEXAS TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING PORTIONS OF ORDINANCE NO. 2018-09 IN ORDER TO ALLOW POSSESSION OF AN OPEN CONTAINER OR THE CONSUMPTION OF AN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE IN THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR, TEXAS.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Taylor, Texas, adopted Ordinance No. 01-03-94, prohibiting the consumption and possession of an open container and consumption of alcoholic beverages in the Central Business District; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Taylor, Texas, adopted Ordinance No. 2018-09, amending Ordinance No. 01-03-94 in order to allow the possession of an open container and consumption of alcoholic beverages in the Central Business District under limited circumstances as stated in Section 2 of Ordinance No. 2018-09;

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Taylor, Texas, has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to contain COVID-19 and prevent its spread throughout the City of Taylor and also to provide its local business owners the ability to continue to provide services to their customers in a safe manner; and

**WHEREAS**, it is recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Governor Greg Abbot, and Williamson County Health officials that when possible restaurants and bars should provide outdoor seating and service to their customers; and

**WHEREAS**, by allowing alcoholic beverage consumption outside of local businesses and restaurants within the Central Business District, the businesses will be better able to provide their customers a safer outdoor environment to dine or congregate; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to make this option available for many downtown business within the Central Business District, it is the desire of the City Council to temporarily suspend the prohibition of the possession of open containers or the consumption of alcoholic beverages in the Central Business District, except for Heritage Square Park and Pierce Park, and permit such activity unless it is otherwise not allowed under state law or local ordinances; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR, TEXAS, AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** The prohibition against alcoholic beverages and open containers, as defined by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission ("TABC) and Ordinance No. 01-03-94, on any public street or right of way as ordered in Section 2 of Ordinance 2018-09 of the City of Taylor, Texas, is hereby temporarily suspended so long as:

A. the alcoholic beverage is sold to the public by a business licensed by the TABC authorizing the public sale of such alcoholic beverage ("Business")

B. the consumption of any alcoholic beverage in the Central Business District does not violate any other ordinance or law; and

C. the alcoholic beverage or open container is not on the grounds of Heritage Square Park or Pierce Park. No open containers or consumption of alcoholic beverages are allowed in Heritage Square Park or Pierce Park unless otherwise allowed by special permit of the City.

**SECTION 2.** The Businesses are encouraged to not allow their customers to leave the Business or the area adjacent to the business with a glass container and to provide plastic or paper cups to their customers if the customer is leaving the area adjacent to the business. If businesses and customers do not follow this recommendation and broken glass and litter become a problem within the Central Business District, then the City Council will consider amending this ordinance to include enforcement measures to address the problem.

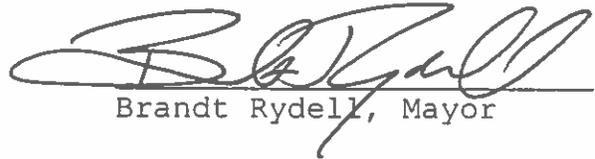
**SECTION 3.** The City Council authorizes the City Manager for administrative purposes to make administrative decisions and rules and regulations regarding implementation and enforcement of the ordinance. The City Manager shall determine such rules and regulations and notify the public by publishing said rules and regulations on the city website and making them publicly available at city hall.

**SECTION 4.** Nothing herein is intended to abrogate or supersede any law regarding alcoholic beverages including, without limitation, the TABC, which shall be a requirement of the Business under this Ordinance.

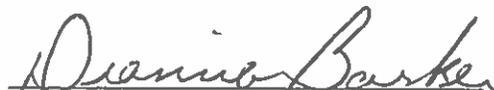
**SECTION 5.** All provisions of any Ordinance of the City of Taylor, Texas, in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance shall be, and the same are hereby repealed, and all other provisions not in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 5.** Unless further action is taken by the City Council extending this ordinance, then this suspension shall terminate at 12:00 a.m. on September 29, 2020.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED on this 20 day of May, 2020.

  
Brandt Rydell, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Dianna Barker, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Ted W. Hejl, City Attorney

CERTIFICATE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF WILLIAMSON

I, Dianna Barker, being the current City Clerk of the City of Taylor, Texas, do hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of Ordinance No. 2020-07, passed and approved by the City Council of the City of Taylor, Texas, on the 20 day of May, 2020, and such Ordinance was duly introduced, passed, approved and adopted at meetings open to the public and notices of the meetings, giving the dates, places, and subject matter thereof, were posted as prescribed by Government Code Section 551.043.

Witness my hand and seal of office this 20 day of May, 2020.

  
Dianna Barker  
City Clerk

