

TITLE

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 2, TITLED "THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE, BY AMENDING THE FOLLOWING: ARTICLE II, TITLED "DEFINITIONS" TO ADD DEFINITIONS FOR "INDOOR SPORT SHOOTING RANGE" AND "OUTDOOR SPORT SHOOTING RANGE;" ARTICLE III, TITLED "GENERAL PROVISIONS," TO ADD A NEW SECTION 3.26, TITLED "SPORT SHOOTING RANGES"; SECTION 7.03, TITLED "B-2, GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICTS," TO ADD "INDOOR SPORT SHOOTING RANGES" AS A USE REQUIRING SPECIAL EXCEPTION APPROVAL FROM THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS; AND SECTION 7.04, TITLED "UB-2, UNIFIED GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICTS," TO ADD "INDOOR SPORT SHOOTING RANGES" AS A USE REQUIRING SPECIAL EXCEPTION APPROVAL FROM THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS; ALL FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING PROVISIONS FOR SPORT SHOOTING RANGES.

WHEREAS, the City of Oak Ridge is continually reviewing the Zoning Ordinance to update provisions and make it more understandable to the general public; and

WHEREAS, the amendments will update the Zoning Ordinance to address sport shooting ranges; and

WHEREAS, the following changes have been submitted for approval or disapproval to the Oak Ridge Municipal Planning Commission and the Commission has approved the same; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing thereon has been held as required by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE:

Section 1. Ordinance No. 2, titled "The Zoning Ordinance of the City of Oak Ridge, Tennessee," Article II, titled "Definitions," is hereby amended by adding the following new definitions in alphabetical order, which new definitions shall read as follows:

**ARTICLE II
DEFINITIONS**

INDOOR SPORT SHOOTING RANGE: A fully enclosed building or part of a fully enclosed building specifically designed and operated for the use of rifles, shotguns, pistols, silhouettes, skeet, trap, black powder, archery, or any other shooting activity, but does not include police or military indoor firing ranges operated by any level of government.

OUTDOOR SPORT SHOOTING RANGE: An outdoor area designed and operated for the use of rifles, shotguns, pistols, silhouettes, skeet, trap, black powder, archery, or any other shooting activity, but does not include police or military firing ranges operated by any level of government, and does not include occasional not-for-profit charitable events (commonly called "turkey shoots"); provided, however, that the presence of "Buildings, Unenclosed" and/or "Buildings, Accessory," including, but not limited to, sheltered firing lines, firing ports, stations, pavilions, sheds and canopies, on or within the outdoor area shall be permitted and the presence of such structures shall not cause a sport shooting range to be considered an indoor range.

Section 2. Ordinance No. 2, titled “The Zoning Ordinance of the City of Oak Ridge, Tennessee,” Article III, titled “General Provisions,” is hereby amended by adding a new Section 3.36, titled “Sport Shooting Ranges,” which new section shall read as follows:

Section 3.36. Sport Shooting Ranges

(a) License Required

No person shall conduct, maintain, operate, or cause to be conducted, maintained or operated, any indoor or outdoor sport shooting range without being licensed through the State of Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security and meet all other applicable state and federal regulations for operating a sport shooting range. Any licenses or permits required for shooting range activity by any level of government shall be submitted as supporting documentation with the site plan.

(b) Standards, Site Plan

All sport shooting ranges shall be planned, constructed and maintained according to standards that are at least as stringent as the standards contained in the National Rifle Association range manual and the standards set forth by the State of Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security *Handgun Safety School Firing Range Requirements*. The proposed sport shooting range shall be shown on a site plan showing all buildings, firing lines or stations, shooting related activity areas and other areas or structures.

(c) Location

Sport shooting ranges shall be designed to minimize noise to surrounding properties. No indoor sport shooting range shall be located closer than 1,000 feet (measured from property line to property line) from any school, church, hospital, or other indoor sport shooting range, nor in any location that would constitute a nuisance under the City Code, common law or any other applicable law, statute or regulation, or in a location such that the noise from the indoor sport shooting range would constitute such a nuisance or other violation under the City Code.

(d) Hours of Operation

No indoor sport shooting range shall be operated between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. These hours of operation coincide with allowable decibel levels as defined in Section 12.04 of the Zoning Ordinance.

(e) Safety Rules

In the operation of any indoor sport shooting range, the following safety rules shall at all times be observed:

1. Sport shooting ranges shall contain all projectile and shot fall within the property of the sport shooting range.
2. A lead mitigation plan meeting requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shall be submitted with the site plan.

3. It is the sport shooting range operator's responsibility to determine if a shooter is of appropriate age and has the physical and mental ability to safely utilize the sport shooting range and provide their shooters with appropriate qualified supervision.
4. The sport shooting range shall be properly and adequately ventilated and filtered at all times and comply with all applicable OSHA, NIOSH, EPA standards and any other applicable local, state and federal codes, standards, laws and regulations.

Section 3. Ordinance No. 2, titled "The Zoning Ordinance of the City of Oak Ridge, Tennessee," Article VII, titled "Parking and Business Districts," Section 7.03, titled "B-2, Unified General Business Districts," Subsection (c), titled "Uses Requiring Board of Appeals Permit," is hereby amended by adding a new subpart 14, which subpart shall read as follows:

Section 7.03. B-2, General Business Districts

(c) Special Exceptions Requiring Board of Zoning Appeals Approval:

14. Indoor Sport Shooting Range.

Section 4. Ordinance No. 2, titled "The Zoning Ordinance of the City of Oak Ridge, Tennessee," Article VII, titled "Parking and Business Districts," Section 7.04, titled "UB-2, Unified General Business Districts," Subsection (c), titled "Uses Requiring Board of Appeals Permit," is hereby amended by adding a new subpart 11, which subpart shall read as follows:

Section 7.04. UB-2, Unified General Business Districts

(c) Special Exceptions Requiring Board of Zoning Appeals Approval:

11. Indoor Sport Shooting Range.

Section 5. This ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after adoption on second reading, the welfare of the City of Oak Ridge requiring it.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

Kenneth R. Krushenski, City Attorney

Thomas L. Beehan, Mayor

Diana R. Stanley, City Clerk

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