

**THE  
JACKSON  
MUNICIPAL  
CODE**

**Prepared by the**



**Municipal Technical Advisory Service**  
*In cooperation with the Tennessee Municipal League*

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Change 4, May 31, 2021

**CITY OF JACKSON, TENNESSEE**

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## PREFACE

This code is the result of a comprehensive codification of the ordinances of the City of Jackson, Tennessee. By referring to the historical citation appearing at the end of each section, the user will be able to ascertain the old code section or ordinance from which the particular section has been derived. The absence of a historical citation means that the section was added at the time the code was prepared. The word "modified" in the historical citation indicates substantial modification of the original ordinance or ordinances.

The attention of the user is directed to the arrangement of the code into titles, chapters, and sections. Related matter is kept together, so far as possible, within the same title. Each section number is complete within itself, containing the title number, the chapter number, and the section of the chapter of which it is a part. Specifically, the first number is the title number followed by a hyphen, then the chapter number with the last two numbers showing the section number within the chapter, so that, for example, title 2, chapter 1, section 6, is designated as § 2-106.

By utilizing the table of contents and the analysis preceding each title and chapter of the code, together with the cross references and explanations included as footnotes, the user should readily find all provisions in the code relating to any question that might arise.

Following this preface is an outline of the ordinance adoption procedures, if any, prescribed by the city's charter.

The code has been arranged and prepared in loose-leaf form to facilitate keeping it up to date. MTAS will provide updating service under the following conditions:

(1) That all ordinances relating to subjects treated in the code or which should be added to the code are adopted as amending, adding, or deleting specific chapters or sections of the code (see section 8 of the adopting ordinance for the code).

(2) That one copy of every ordinance adopted by the city is furnished to MTAS immediately after its adoption (see section 8 of the adopting ordinance).

(3) That the city agrees to reimburse MTAS for the actual costs of reproducing replacement pages for the code (no charge is made for the consultant's work, and reproduction costs are usually nominal).

Presently, when the foregoing conditions are met MTAS will reproduce replacement pages for the code to reflect the amendments and additions made by such ordinances. This service will be performed at least annually and more often if justified by the volume of amendments. Replacement pages will be supplied with detailed instructions for utilizing them so as again to make the code complete and up to date.

The able assistance of the codes team: Emily Keyser, Program Resource Specialist; and Linda Winstead, Nancy Gibson, and Doug Brown, Administrative Specialists, is gratefully acknowledged.

Melissa Ashburn  
Codification Consultant

**ORDINANCE ADOPTION PROCEDURES PRESCRIBED BY THE  
CITY CHARTER**

The ordinance adoption procedures for the City of Jackson are set out as follows precisely as they appear in the charter:

**ORDINANCES**

**SECTION 26**

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the style or introductory clause of all ordinances shall be as follows:

"Be it ordained by the Council of the City of Jackson."

Every ordinance and resolution shall be introduced in open meeting of the Council and filed with the City Recorder, whose duty it shall be to record the same in a book kept for that purpose, together with the signatures of the Mayor, and the original shall be filed in the archives of the office of the City Recorder. No ordinance may be adopted at the same meeting at which introduced before the Council and a synopsis of such ordinance sufficient to reasonably inform the public as to the content thereof must be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the City of Jackson at least one time before adoption; that no ordinances granting any kind of a franchise shall be valid unless published at least five days before final passage in some daily newspaper of the City of Jackson. A resolution may be acted upon at the same meeting at which introduced and need not be published. [Pvt. Acts 1981, Ch. 101, Sec. 1, as amended by Pvt. Acts 1988, Ch. 190, Sec. 1 (X)]

**ADOPTION OF TECHNICAL CODES,  
AUTHORITY, PROCEDURE**

**SECTION 27**

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Council is granted the authority to adopt by reference the provisions of any code or portions of any code, which shall include specifically, but shall not be limited, to compilation of rules and regulations which have been prepared by various technical or professional associations, for example building codes; plumbing codes; electrical wiring codes; codes for the slaughtering, processing, selling of meats and meat products for human consumption; codes for the production, pasteurizing and sale of milk and

milk products; traffic codes, codification of existing ordinances of the City, together with any other code or any municipal, state, or federal statute, rule, ordinance, or regulation which embraces rules and regulations pertinent to a subject which is a proper municipal legislative matter, without setting forth the provisions of same in full, provided that at least three (3) copies<sup>1</sup> of same that is to be incorporated or adopted by reference are filed in the office of the Recorder of the City and are kept available for public use, inspection and examination. Said copies must be filed with the Recorder for a period of fifteen (15) days prior to adoption of the ordinance which incorporates such code or municipal, state or federal statute, rule, ordinance, or regulation by reference. [As amended by Pvt. Acts 1988, Ch. 190, Sec. 1 (Y)]

## **SAME-PUBLICATION**

### **SECTION 28**

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED. That the ordinance which adopts such code, municipal, state, or federal statute, rule, ordinance or regulation by reference shall be published in full one (1) time in a daily newspaper published in the City before final adoption.

## **SAME-AMENDMENT**

### **SECTION 29**

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That any amendment which may be made to any code of municipal, state, or federal statute, rules, ordinance or regulation incorporated by reference shall be adopted by the City in the same manner as the original was adopted and such ordinances adopting amendments by reference shall meet the same requirements as for the original ordinance.

## **INITIATIVE**

### **SECTION 30**

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That any proposed ordinance may be submitted to the Council by petition signed by the qualified voters of said City, equal in number to 10 per cent of the votes cast for candidates for Council at the

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<sup>1</sup>Tennessee Code Annotated, section 6-54-502 now requires only one copy.

last preceding general municipal election, with the request that said ordinance be submitted to a vote of the people, if not passed by the Council. The signatures, inspection, amendment, and certification of each petition shall be filed with the City Recorder, which petition shall contain a general statement of the ordinance to be passed. The signatures to the petition need not all be appended to the paper, but each signer shall add to his signature the street and number of his residence.

One of the signers on each such paper shall make oath that the statements therein made are true, as he believes, and that each signature to the paper appended is the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be. Within fifteen days from the date of the filing of such petition said Recorder shall examine the same and ascertain whether it be signed by the required number of persons, and whether such persons are qualified voters as shown by the registration books, and he shall attach to said petition his certificate over the result of such examination. If by said certificate the petition is shown to be insufficient, it may be amended within ten days from the date of said certificate, and the Recorder shall, within fifteen days after such amendment, make like examination of the amended petition, and if his certificate shall show the same to be insufficient, it shall then be returned to the person filing it, the same without prejudice, however, to the filing of a new petition to the same effect one year later.

If, by his certificate, the petition is shown to be sufficient, the proposed ordinance and petition shall be filed and thereupon either:

First: The Council shall pass such ordinance without alteration within fifteen days after it is so filed, or if they fail or refuse to do so;

Second: The Recorder shall transmit said ordinance and petition, together with his certificate, that the Council failed or refused to pass the ordinance to the Commissioners of Election, whose duty it shall be to call a special election to be held, as soon as it may be done in conformity to law, unless a general municipal election is fixed to be held within ninety days, and at said special election, if none is so fixed, said ordinance shall be submitted without alteration to the qualified voters of the said City. The ballots used and voted upon said ordinance shall contain these words "for the ordinance" stating the substance of the proposed ordinance, and "against the ordinance," stating the substance of the proposed ordinance.

If a majority of the qualified voters voting for the proposed ordinance shall vote in favor thereof, such ordinance shall thereupon become as valid and binding an ordinance of the City as if duly passed by the Council, and any ordinance proposed by petition or which shall be adopted by a vote of the people,

cannot be repealed or amended except by a vote of the people. Any number of proposed ordinances may be voted upon at the same election, in accordance with the provisions of this section, but there shall not be more than one special election in any period of twelve months for such purpose.

The Council may submit a proposition for the repeal of any ordinance or for amendments thereto to be voted on at any succeeding general city election, and should such proposition so submitted receive a majority of the votes cast thereon at such election, such ordinance shall thereby be repealed or amended accordingly. Whenever any ordinance or proposition is required by this Act to be submitted to the voters of the City at any election, the Election Commission shall cause such ordinance or proposition to be published in one of the daily newspapers published in said City, such publication to be in not more than twenty nor less than five days before the submission of such proposition or ordinance to be voted on. [As amended by Pvt. Acts 1988, Ch. 190, Sec. 1 (Z)]



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