

**THE  
DICKSON  
MUNICIPAL  
CODE**

Prepared by the

**MUNICIPAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICE  
INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC SERVICE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE**

in cooperation with the

**TENNESSEE MUNICIPAL LEAGUE**

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Change 9, October 3, 2011

**CITY OF DICKSON, TENNESSEE**

**MAYOR**

Don L. Weiss, Jr.

**VICE MAYOR**

Mike Legg

**COUNCILMEMBERS**

Betty Lou Alsobrooks  
Jon Bird Armstrong  
Richard Arnold  
R. Scott England  
Dwight Haynes  
Mike Outlaw  
Horace Perkins III

**RECORDER**

Dianne Shelton

## PREFACE

The Dickson Municipal Code contains the codification and revision of the ordinances of the City of Dickson, Tennessee. By referring to the historical citation appearing at the end of each section, the user can determine the origin of each particular section. The absence of a historical citation means that the section was added by the codifier. The word "modified" in the historical citation indicates significant modification of the original ordinance.

The code is arranged 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 digit, followed by a hyphen, identifies the title number. The second digit identifies the chapter number, and the last two digits identify the section number. For example, title 2, chapter 1, section 6, is designated as section 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 locate all the provisions in the code relating to any question that might arise. However, the user should note that most of the administrative ordinances (e.g. Annual Budget, Zoning Map Amendments, Tax Assessments, etc...) do not appear in the code. Likewise, ordinances that have been passed since the last update of the code do not appear here. Therefore, the user should refer to the city's ordinance book or the city recorder for a comprehensive and up to date review of the city's ordinances.

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).
- (2) That one copy of every ordinance adopted by the city is kept in a separate ordinance book and forwarded to MTAS annually.
- (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).

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.

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Steve Lobertini  
Legal Consultant

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

Section 2.07. ... Ordinances and Resolutions shall be in written form before introduced. The enacting clause of Ordinances shall be "BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DICKSON:". No action of the Council shall be valid or binding unless approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Council members present. Any Ordinance which repeals or amends existing Ordinances shall set forth at length the sections or subsections repealed or as amended. Every Ordinance except an emergency Ordinance must be approved on two (2) readings, on two (2) separate days, and shall become effective immediately after final approval unless its terms provide a later effective date. Every Ordinance, except codes adopted by reference, shall be read in full on the first reading; the second reading may be title only except that any amended provisions shall be read in full. Each Resolution shall be read in full one (1) time and shall become effective when adopted unless its terms provide otherwise.

To meet a public emergency affecting life, health or property, as determined by a majority of the Council present, an emergency Ordinance may be adopted on one (1) reading and become effective immediately, by the affirmative votes of a majority of the members of Council present, if the Ordinance contains a full statement of the facts creating the emergency; but any emergency Ordinance shall be effective for only ninety (90) days. Franchises, contracts, levy of taxes, or special privileges shall not be passed as emergency Ordinances.

(b) The Council shall have the general and continuing Ordinances of the City assembled into an official code of the City, a copy of which shall be kept currently up to date and shall be available to the public. After adoption of the official code, Ordinances shall be adopted as additions to, deletions from, or amendments to the code.

(c) Standard codes may be adopted by Ordinances which contain only references to titles, dates, issuing organizations, and such changes to the standard codes as the Council may deem desirable. Procedures prescribed by general law shall be followed when adopting such standard codes. Copies of the official code and any standard codes so adopted by reference shall be available to the public at prices fixed by the Council.

(d) The original copies of Ordinances, Resolutions, contracts, and other documents shall be filed and preserved by the City Recorder. The title and a brief summary of each Ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City within ten (10) days after its final approval.

Section 2.03. ... [The Mayor] shall have five (5) whole days, Saturdays and Sundays excepted, in which to approve or veto any Ordinance or Resolution, or part thereof. Should he approve said Ordinance or Resolution passed by said

Council, he will sign it and it shall become the law of said City. Should he veto such Ordinance or Resolution, or part thereof, he shall give his reasons therefor, in writing and re-submit such to the next meeting of the Council. Should such Ordinance or Resolution be again passed by said Council with the affirmative vote of five (5) members, it shall become the law of said City, and may be entered in the records with or without the signature of the Mayor.