TITLE 9

BUSINESS, PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS, ETC.¹

CHAPTER
1. MISCELLANEOUS.
2. PEDDLERS, ETC.
3. CHARITABLE SOLICITORS.
4. TAXICABS.
5. GARAGE SALES.

CHAPTER 1

MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION

9-101. "Going out of business" sales. It shall be unlawful for any person falsely to represent a sale as being a "going out of business" sale. A "going out of business" sale, for the purposes of this section, shall be a "fire sale," "bankrupt sale," "loss of lease sale," or any other sale made in anticipation of the termination of a business at its present location. When any person, after advertising a "going out of business" sale, adds to his stock or fails to go out of business within ninety (90) days he shall prima facie be deemed to have violated this section. (1984 Code, § 5-101)

¹Municipal code references
Building, plumbing, wiring and housing regulations: title 12.
Liquor and beer regulations: title 8.
Noise reductions: title 11.
CHAPTER 2

PEDDLERS, ETC.¹

SECTION
9-201. Permit required. It shall be unlawful for any peddler, canvasser, solicitor, or transient merchant to ply his trade within the corporate limits without first obtaining a permit in compliance with the provisions of this chapter. No permit shall be used at any time by any person other than the one to whom it is issued. (1984 Code, § 5-201)

9-202. Exemptions. The terms of this chapter shall not be applicable to persons selling at wholesale to dealers, nor to newsboys, nor to bona fide merchants who merely deliver goods in the regular course of business, nor to bona fide charitable, religious, patriotic or philanthropic organizations. (1984 Code, § 5-202)

9-203. Application for permit. Applicants for a permit under this chapter must file with the city recorder a sworn written application containing the following:

(1) Name and physical description of applicant.
(2) Complete permanent home address and local address of the applicant and, in the case of transient merchants, the local address from which proposed sales will be made.
(3) A brief description of the nature of the business and the goods to be sold.

¹Municipal code reference
Privilege taxes: title 5.
(4) If employed, the name and address of the employer, together with credentials therefrom establishing the exact relationship.

(5) The length of time for which the right to do business is desired.

(6) A recent clear photograph approximately two (2) inches square showing the head and shoulders of the applicant.

(7) The names of at least two (2) reputable local property owners who will certify as to the applicant's good moral reputation and business responsibility, or in lieu of the names of references, such other available evidence as will enable an investigator to evaluate the applicant's moral reputation and business responsibility.

(8) A statement as to whether or not the applicant has been convicted of any crime or misdemeanor or for violating any municipal ordinance, and, if so, the nature of the offense and the punishment or penalty assessed therefor.

(9) The last three (3) cities or towns, if that many, where applicant carried on business immediately preceding the date of application and, in the case of transient merchants, the addresses from which such business was conducted in those municipalities.

(10) At the time of filing the application, a fee of five dollars ($5.00) shall be paid to the municipality to help defray the cost of investigating the facts stated therein. (1984 Code, § 5-203)

9-204. Issuance or refusal of permit. (1) Each application shall be referred to the chief of police for investigation. The chief shall report his findings to the city recorder within seventy-two (72) hours.

(2) If as a result of such investigation the chief reports the applicant's moral reputation and/or business responsibility to be unsatisfactory the city recorder shall notify the applicant that his application is disapproved and that no permit will be issued.

(3) If, on the other hand, the chief's report indicates that the moral reputation and business responsibility of the applicant are satisfactory the city recorder shall issue a permit upon the payment of all applicable privilege taxes and the filing of the bond required by § 9-206. The city recorder shall keep a permanent record of all permits issued. (1984 Code, § 5-204)

9-205. Appeal. Any person aggrieved by the action of the chief of police and/or the city recorder in the denial of a permit shall have the right to appeal to the city commission. Such appeal shall be taken by filing with the mayor within fourteen (14) days after notice of the action complained of, a written statement setting forth fully the grounds for the appeal. The mayor shall set a time and place for a hearing on such appeal and notice of the time and place of such hearing shall be given to the appellant. The notice shall be in writing and shall be mailed, postage prepaid, to the applicant at his last known address at least five (5) days prior to the date set for hearing, or shall be delivered by a
police officer in the same manner as a summons at least three (3) days prior to the date set for hearing. (1984 Code, § 5-205)

9-206. **Bond.** Every permittee shall file with the city recorder a surety bond running to the municipality in the amount of one thousand dollars ($1,000.00). The bond shall be conditioned that the permittee shall comply fully with all the provisions of the ordinances of this municipality and the statutes of the state regulating peddlers, canvassers, solicitors, transient merchants, itinerant merchants, or itinerant vendors, as the case may be, and shall guarantee to any citizen of the municipality that all money paid as a down payment will be accounted for and applied according to the representations of the permittee, and further guaranteeing to any citizen of the municipality doing business with said permittee that the property purchased will be delivered according to the representations of the permittee. Action on such bond may be brought by any person aggrieved and for whose benefit, among others, the bond is given. The surety may be relieved without costs of all further liability by paying, pursuant to order of the court, the face amount of the bond to the clerk of the court in which the suit is commenced. (1984 Code, § 5-206)

9-207. **Loud noises and speaking devices.** No permittee, nor any person in his behalf, shall shout, cry out, blow a horn, ring a bell or use any sound amplifying device upon any of the sidewalks, streets, alleys, parks or other public places of the municipality or upon private premises where sound of sufficient volume is emitted or produced therefrom to be capable of being plainly heard upon the adjacent sidewalks, streets, alleys, parks, or other public places, for the purpose of attracting attention to any goods, wares or merchandise which such permittee proposes to sell. (1984 Code, § 5-207)

9-208. **Use of streets.** No permittee shall have any exclusive right to any location in the public streets, nor shall any be permitted a stationary location thereon, nor shall any be permitted to operate in a congested area where the operation might impede or inconvenience the public use of the streets. For the purpose of this chapter, the judgment of a police officer, exercised in good faith, shall be deemed conclusive as to whether the area is congested and the public impeded or inconvenienced. (1984 Code, § 5-208)

9-209. **Exhibition of permit.** Permittees are required to exhibit their permits at the request of any policeman or citizen. (1984 Code, § 5-209)

9-210. **Policemen to enforce.** It shall be the duty of all policemen to see that the provisions of this chapter are enforced. (1984 Code, § 5-210)
9-211. **Revocation or suspension of permit.** (1) Permits issued under the provisions of this chapter may be revoked by the city commission after notice and hearing, for any of the following causes:

(a) Fraud, misrepresentation, or incorrect statement contained in the application for permit, or made in the course of carrying on the business of solicitor, canvasser, peddler, transient merchant, itinerant merchant, or itinerant vendor.

(b) Any violation of this chapter.

(c) Conviction of any crime or misdemeanor.

(d) Conducting the business of peddler, canvasser, solicitor, transient merchant, itinerant merchant, or itinerant vendor, as the case may be, in an unlawful manner or in such a manner as to constitute a breach of the peace or to constitute a menace to the health, safety, or general welfare of the public.

(2) Notice of the hearing for revocation of a permit shall be given by the city recorder in writing, setting forth specifically the grounds of complaint and the time and place of hearing. Such notice shall be mailed to the permittee at his last known address at least five (5) days prior to the date set for hearing, or it shall be delivered by a police officer in the same manner as a summons at least three (3) days prior to the date set for hearing.

(3) The mayor may suspend a permit pending the revocation hearing when reasonably necessary in the public interest. (1984 Code, § 5-211)

9-212. **Reapplication.** No permittee whose permit has been revoked shall make further application until a period of at least six (6) months has elapsed since the last revocation. (1984 Code, § 5-212)

9-213. **Expiration and renewal of permit.** Permits issued under the provisions of this chapter shall expire on the same date that the permittee's privilege license expires and shall be renewed without cost if the permittee applies for and obtains a new privilege license within thirty (30) days thereafter. Permits issued to permittees who are not subject to a privilege tax shall be issued for one (1) year. An application for a renewal shall be made substantially in the same form as an original application. However, only so much of the application shall be completed as is necessary to reflect conditions which have changed since the last application was filed. (1984 Code, § 5-213)
CHAPTER 3
CHARITABLE SOLICITORS

SECTION
9-301. Permit required.
9-302. Prerequisites for a permit.
9-303. Denial of a permit.
9-304. Exhibition of permit.

9-301. Permit required. No person shall solicit contributions or anything else of value for any real or alleged charitable or religious purpose without a permit from the city recorder authorizing such solicitation. Provided, however, that this section shall not apply to any locally established organization or church operated exclusively for charitable or religious purposes if the solicitations are conducted exclusively among the members thereof, voluntarily and without remuneration for making such solicitations, or if the solicitations are in the form of collections or contributions at the regular assemblies of any such established organization or church. (1984 Code, § 5-301)

9-302. Prerequisites for a permit. The recorder shall, upon application, issue a permit authorizing charitable or religious solicitations when, after a reasonable investigation, he finds the following facts to exist:
(1) The applicant has a good character and reputation for honesty and integrity, or if the applicant is not an individual person, that every member, managing officer or agent of the applicant has a good character or reputation for honesty and integrity.
(2) The control and supervision of the solicitation will be under responsible and reliable persons.
(3) The applicant has not engaged in any fraudulent transaction or enterprise.
(4) The solicitation will not be a fraud on the public but will be for a bona fide charitable or religious purpose.
(5) The solicitation is prompted solely by a desire to finance the charitable cause described by the applicant. (1984 Code, § 5-302)

9-303. Denial of a permit. Any applicant for a permit to make charitable or religious solicitations may appeal to the city commission if he has not been granted a permit within fifteen (15) days after he makes application therefor. (1984 Code, § 5-303)

9-304. Exhibition of permit. Any solicitor required by this chapter to have a permit shall exhibit such permit at the request of any policeman or person solicited. (1984 Code, § 5-304)
CHAPTER 4

TAXICABS

SECTION
9-401. Taxicab franchise and privilege license required.
9-402. Requirements as to application and hearing.
9-403. Liability insurance or bond required.
9-404. Revocation or suspension of franchise.
9-405. Mechanical condition of vehicles.
9-408. License and permit required for drivers.
9-409. Qualifications for driver's permit.
9-410. Revocation or suspension of driver's permit.
9-411. Drivers not to solicit business.
9-412. Parking restricted.
9-413. Drivers to use direct routes.
9-414. Taxicabs not to be used for illegal purposes.
9-415. Miscellaneous prohibited conduct by drivers.
9-416. Transportation of more than one passenger at the same time.

9-401. **Taxicab franchise and privilege license required.** It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the taxicab business unless he has first obtained a taxicab franchise from the municipality and has a currently effective privilege license. (1984 Code, § 5-401)

9-402. **Requirements as to application and hearing.** No person shall be eligible to apply for a taxicab franchise if he has a bad character or has been convicted of a felony within the last ten (10) years. Applications for taxicab franchises shall be made under oath and in writing to the chief of police. The application shall state the name and address of the applicant, the name and address of the proposed place of business, the number of cabs the applicant desires to operate, the makes and models of said cabs, and such other pertinent information as the chief of police may require. The application shall be accompanied by at least two (2) affidavits of reputable local citizens attesting to the good character and reputation of the applicant. Within ten (10) days after receipt of an application the chief of police shall make a thorough investigation of the applicant; determine if there is a public need for additional taxicab service; present the application to the city commission; and make a

\[1\text{Municipal code referencePrivilege taxes: title 5.}\]
recommendation to either grant or refuse a franchise to the applicant. The city commission shall thereupon hold a public hearing at which time witnesses for and against the granting of the franchise shall be heard. In deciding whether or not to grant the franchise the city commission shall consider the public need for additional service, the increased traffic congestion, parking space requirements, and whether or not the safe use of the streets by the public, both vehicular and pedestrian, will be preserved by the granting of such any additional taxicab franchise. Those persons already operating taxicabs when this code is adopted shall not be required to make applications under this section but shall be required to comply with all of the other provisions hereof. (1984 Code, § 5-402)

9-403. Liability insurance or bond required. No taxicab franchise shall be issued or continued in operation unless there is in full force and effect a liability insurance policy or bond for each vehicle authorized in an amount equal to that required by the state's financial responsibility law as set out in Tennessee Code Annotated, title 55, chapter 12. The insurance policy or bond required by this section shall contain a provision that it shall not be cancelled except after at least twenty (20) days' written notice is given by the insuror to both the insured and the recorder of the municipality. (1984 Code, § 5-403)

9-404. Revocation or suspension of franchise. The city commission, after a public hearing, may revoke or suspend any taxicab franchise for misrepresentations or false statements made in the application therefor or for traffic violations or violations of this chapter by the taxicab owner or any driver. (1984 Code, § 5-404)

9-405. Mechanical condition of vehicles. It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any taxicab in the municipality unless such taxicab is equipped with four (4) wheel brakes, front and rear lights, safe tires, horn, muffler, windshield wipers, and rear vision mirror, all of which shall conform to the requirements of the state motor vehicle law. Each taxicab shall be equipped with a handle or latch or other opening device attached to each door of the passenger compartment so that such doors may be operated by the passenger from the inside of the taxicab without the intervention or assistance of the driver. The motor and all mechanical parts shall be kept in such condition or repair as may be reasonably necessary to provide for the safety of the public and the continuous satisfactory operation of the taxicab. (1984 Code, § 5-405)

9-406. Cleanliness of vehicles. All taxicabs operated in the municipality shall, at all times, be kept in a reasonably clean and sanitary condition. They shall be thoroughly swept and dusted at least once each day.
At least once every week they shall be thoroughly washed and the interior cleaned with a suitable antiseptic solution. (1984 Code, § 5-406)

9-407. **Inspection of vehicles.** All taxicabs shall be inspected at least semiannually by the chief of police to insure that they comply with the requirements of this chapter with respect to mechanical condition, cleanliness, etc. (1984 Code, § 5-407)

9-408. **License and permit required for drivers.** No person shall drive a taxicab unless he is in possession of a state special chauffeur's license and a taxicab driver's permit issued by the chief of police. (1984 Code, § 5-408)

9-409. **Qualifications for driver's permit.** No person shall be issued a taxicab driver's permit unless he complies with the following to the satisfaction of the chief of police:

1. Makes written application to the chief of police.
2. Is at least eighteen (18) years of age and holds a state special chauffeur's license.
3. Undergoes an examination by a physician and is found to be of sound physique, with good eyesight and hearing and not subject to epilepsy, vertigo, heart trouble or any other infirmity of body or mind which might render him unfit for the safe operation of a public vehicle.
4. Is clean in dress and person and is not addicted to the use of intoxicating liquor or drugs.
5. Produces affidavits of good character from two (2) reputable citizens of the municipality who have known him personally and have observed his conduct for at least two (2) years next preceding the date of his application.
6. Has not been convicted of a felony, drunk driving, driving under the influence of an intoxicant or drug, or of frequent minor traffic offenses.
7. Is familiar with the state and local traffic laws. (1984 Code, § 5-409)

9-410. **Revocation or suspension of driver's permit.** The city commission, after a public hearing, may revoke or suspend any taxicab driver's permit for violation of traffic regulations, for violation of this chapter, or when the driver ceases to possess the qualifications as prescribed in § 9-409. (1984 Code, § 5-410)

9-411. **Drivers not to solicit business.** All taxicab drivers are expressly prohibited from indiscriminately soliciting passengers or from cruising upon the streets of the municipality for the purpose of obtaining patronage for their cabs. (1984 Code, § 5-411)
9-412. **Parking restricted.** It shall be unlawful to park any taxicab on any street except in such places as have been specifically designated and marked by the municipality for the use of taxicabs. It is provided, however, that taxicabs may stop upon any street for the purpose of picking up or discharging passengers if such stops are made in such manner as not to interfere unreasonably with or obstruct other traffic and provided the passenger loading or discharging is promptly accomplished. (1984 Code, § 5-412)

9-413. **Drivers to use direct routes.** Taxicab drivers shall always deliver their passengers to their destinations by the most direct available route. (1984 Code, § 5-413)

9-414. **Taxicabs not to be used for illegal purposes.** No taxicab shall be used for or in the commission of any illegal act, business, or purpose. (1984 Code, § 5-414)

9-415. **Miscellaneous prohibited conduct by drivers.** It shall be unlawful for any taxicab driver, while on duty, to be under the influence of, or to drink any intoxicating beverage or beer; to use profane or obscene language; to shout or call to prospective passengers; to blow the automobile horn unnecessarily; or otherwise to disturb unreasonably the peace, quiet and tranquility of the municipality in any way. (1984 Code, § 5-415)

9-416. **Transportation of more than one passenger at the same time.** No person shall be admitted to a taxicab already occupied by a passenger without the consent of such other passenger. (1984 Code, § 5-416)
CHAPTER 5

GARAGE SALES

SECTION

9-502. Property permitted to be sold.
9-503. Permit required.
9-504. Application required.
9-505. Permit fee.
9-506. Permit condition.
9-507. Hours of operation.
9-508. Exception.
9-509. Pre-permit investigation.
9-510. Display of sale property.
9-511. Display of permit.
9-512. Advertising signs.
9-514. Inspection-arrest authority of inspector.
9-516. Revocation and refusal of permit.
9-517. Persons exempt from ordinance.
9-518. Separate violations.
9-519. Penalty.
9-520. Separability.

9-501. Definitions. For the purposes of this chapter, the following terms, phrases, words and their derivations shall have the meaning given herein. When not inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words in the plural number include the singular number, and words in the singular number the plural number. The word "shall" is always mandatory and not merely directory.

(1) "Garage sale" shall mean and include all general sales, open to the public, conducted from or on residential property in any residential zone, as defined by the zoning ordinance, for the purpose of disposing of personal property including, but not limited to, all sales entitled "garage," "lawn," "yard," "attic," "porch," "room," "backyard," "patio," "flea market" or "rummage" sale. This definition shall not include a situation where no more than five (5) specific items are held out for sale.

(2) "Personal property" shall mean property which is owned, utilized and maintained by an individual or members of his or her residence and acquired in the normal course of living in or maintaining a residence. It does not include merchandise which was purchased for resale or obtained on consignment.
(3) "Residence" shall include the whole of the property and attendant structures and shall also include all households, whether they be single-family or multi-family. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-502. **Property permitted to be sold.** It shall be unlawful for any individual to sell or offer for sale, under authority granted by this chapter, property other than personal property. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-503. **Permit required.** No garage sale shall be conducted unless and until the individuals desiring to conduct such sale shall obtain a permit therefore from the city recorder. Members of more than one (1) residence may join in obtaining a permit for a garage sale to be conducted at the residence of one (1) of them. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-504. **Application required.** Prior to issuance of any garage sale permit, the individuals conducting such sale shall make application with the city recorder, setting forth the following information:

   (1) Full name and address of applicant;
   (2) The location at which the proposed garage sale is to be held;
   (3) The date or dates upon which the sale shall be held;
   (4) The date or dates of any other garage sales within the current calendar year;
   (5) An affirmative statement that the property to be sold was owned by the applicant as his own personal property and was neither acquired nor consigned for the purpose of resale. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-505. **Permit fee.** There shall be no fee charged for the three (3) annual permits issued within the year. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-506. **Permit condition.** The permit shall set forth and restrict the time and location of such garage sale. No more than three (3) such permits may be issued to one (1) residence during any calendar year. If members of more than one (1) residence join in requesting a permit, then such permit shall be considered as having been issued for each and all of such residences. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-507. **Hours of operation.** Such garage sales shall be limited to no more than the daylight hours of three (3) consecutive days. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-508. **Exception.** (1) If sale not held because of inclement weather. If a garage sale is not held on the dates for which the permit is issued or is terminated during the first day of the sale because of inclement weather
conditions, the city recorder may issue another permit to the applicant. No additional permit fee is required.

(2) **Fourth sale permitted.** A fourth garage sale shall be permitted in a calendar year if satisfactory proofs of a bona fide change in ownership of the real property is first presented to the city recorder or his duly authorized representative. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-509. **Pre-permit investigation.** Before issuing a permit, the city recorder may conduct an investigation as may reasonably be necessary to determine if there is compliance with this chapter. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-510. **Display of sale property.** Personal property offered for sale may be displayed within the residence, in a garage, carport, and/or in the yard, but only in such areas. No personal property may be offered for sale at a garage sale in any public right-of-way. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-511. **Display of permit.** Any permit in possession of the holder or holders of a garage sale shall be posted on the premises in a conspicuous place so as to be seen from the abutting front street by the public. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-512. **Advertising signs.** (1) **Sign permitted.** Only the following specified signs may be displayed in relation to a garage sale:

   (a) **On-premise signs.** Two (2) signs of not more than six (6) square feet shall be permitted to be displayed on the property of the residence where the garage sale is being conducted.

   (b) **Off-premise directional signs.** Two (2) signs of not more than two (2) square feet each are permitted.

   (c) **Placement of signs.** No sign shall be permitted on utility poles, trees, poles or pipes containing highway signs or street signs and shall not be placed so as to block the view of an intersection.

   (2) **Time limitations.** No sign or other form of advertisement shall be exhibited for more than two (2) days prior to the day such a sale is to commence.

   (3) **Removal of signs.** Signs must be removed by the end of the day upon which the permit expires. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-513. **Public nuisance.** The individual to whom such permit is issued and the owner or tenant of the premises on which such sale or activity is conducted shall be jointly and severally responsible for the maintenance of good order and decorum on the premises during all hours of such sale or activity. No such individual shall permit any loud or boisterous conduct on said premises or permit vehicles to impede the passage of traffic on any roads or streets in the area of such premises. All such individuals shall obey the reasonable orders of
9-514. Inspection-arrest authority of inspector. A police officer or any other official designated by any city ordinance to make inspections under the licensing or regulating ordinance or to enforce the same, shall have the right of entry to any premises showing evidence of a garage sale for the purpose of enforcement or inspection and may close the premises from such a sale and/or charge the individual with violation of this chapter. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-515. Parking. All parking of vehicles shall be conducted in compliance with all applicable laws and ordinances. Further, the police department may enforce such temporary controls to alleviate any special hazards and/or congestion created by any garage sale. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-516. Revocation and refusal of permit. (1) False information. Any permit issued under this chapter may be revoked or any application for issuance of a permit may be refused by the city recorder if the application submitted by the applicant or permit holder contains any false, fraudulent or misleading statement.

(2) Conviction of violation. If any individual is convicted of an offense under this chapter, the city recorder is instructed to cancel any existing garage sale permit held by the individual convicted and not to issue such individual another garage sale permit for a period of two (2) years from the time of conviction. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-517. Persons exempt from ordinance. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to or affect the following:

(1) Persons selling goods pursuant to an order of process of a court of competent jurisdiction.

(2) Persons acting in accordance with their powers and duties as public officials.

(3) Any sale conducted by any merchant or mercantile or other business establishment from or at place of business wherein such sale would be permitted by the Zoning Regulations of the City of Adamsville or under the protection of the non-conforming use section therefore or any other sale conducted by a manufacturer, dealer or vendor and which sale would be conducted from properly zoned premises and not otherwise prohibited in other ordinances.

(4) Any sale conducted by a bona fide charitable, eleemosynary, educational, cultural or governmental institution or organization from or at the place of business for the institution or organization when the proceeds from the
sale are used directly for the institution or organization's charitable purposes and the goods or articles are not sold on a consignment basis. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-518. **Separate violations.** Every article sold and every day a sale is conducted in violation of this chapter shall constitute a separate offense. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-519. **Penalty.** Any person found guilty of violating the terms of this chapter shall be punishable as provided by the municipal code. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)

9-520. **Separability.** If any provision of this chapter is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, or if the application of this chapter to any person or circumstances is found to be invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the other provisions or applications of this chapter which can be given effect without the invalid or unconstitutional provision or application. (as added by Ord. #050407, May 2004)