

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-2043

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NEW PORT RICHEY, FLORIDA, DECLARING A SIX MONTH MORATORIUM ON THE ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS FOR BLOOD PLASMA CENTERS, BODY PIERCING ESTABLISHMENTS, CHECK CASHING STORES, DAY LABOR ESTABLISHMENTS, PAWN SHOPS, TATTOO PARLORS, AND ON THE CULTIVATION, PROCESSING OR DISPENSING OF CANNABIS; AND ON THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS AND APPROVALS FOR ANY BLOOD PLASMA CENTERS, BODY PIERCING ESTABLISHMENTS, CHECK CASHING STORES, DAY LABOR ESTABLISHMENTS, PAWN SHOPS, TATTOO PARLORS, AND ON THE CULTIVATION, PROCESSING OR DISPENSING OF CANNABIS; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2(b), Article VIII, of the Florida Constitution, and 166.021, Florida Statutes, the City of New Port Richey, Florida is authorized and required to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, and may exercise any power for a governmental purpose except when expressly prohibited by law, and pursuant to this authority and 163.3202, Florida Statutes, New Port Richey has enacted land development regulations, consistent with its adopted Comprehensive Plan, which protect the quality of life in the City; and

WHEREAS, the continual process of growth and change within the City requires the continuing analysis of living and working conditions; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety and welfare and morals of the citizens of the City of New Port Richey, Florida are proper and necessary for the consideration of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the continual influx of patterns in the community requires extensive restudy of areas of the community; and

WHEREAS, the changing patterns often cause existing zoning districts to become outdated, inequitable, unbalanced and inappropriate as applied; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to make a determination as to whether existing zoning uses are appropriate where it appears that changing patterns have cast doubt on their propriety; and

WHEREAS, the moratorium is intended to allow sufficient time to study the provision of these uses for the citizens of New Port Richey and to create a long term strategy to ensure adequate access to such services is provided; and

WHEREAS, the moratorium is intended to allow sufficient time to study the provision and location of these uses which does not result in an over-concentration of these uses that will result in the blighting or downgrading of the surrounding neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the moratorium is intended to allow sufficient time to study the provision of these uses to ensure that there is a balance between the existing residential uses and the project demand for and location of these uses; and

WHEREAS, six months is a reasonable period of time to place of moratorium on the issues of permits for blood plasma centers, body piercing establishments, check cashing stores, day labor establishments, pawn shops, tattoo parlors and on the cultivation, processing or dispensing of cannabis; and

WHEREAS, this moratorium is being enacted in good faith, and is of a minimum feasible duration to study the issue.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW PORT RICHEY, FLORIDA, that:

An Emergency exists necessitating the inaction of this Ordinance. The foregoing Whereas clauses are incorporated herein and are the basis for emergency.

SECTION 1. This Ordinance is enacted pursuant to Chapter 166, Fla. Stat. (2015), and under the home rule powers of the City in the interest of the health, peace, safety and general welfare of the people of the City of New Port Richey.

SECTION 2. The foregoing Whereas clauses, incorporated herein, are true and correct. The City Council finds and declares that it is in the best interest of the general public and there exists a need to enact an Ordinance regulating specific uses in the City of New Port Richey. The Council further finds that in order for City staff to examine and make recommendations to the Council as to the criteria to be considered, if any, it is necessary to place a moratorium on the acceptance of applications, issuance of permits and approvals of such uses beginning on the effective date of this Ordinance. All pending applications, if any, are subject to this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. It is the purpose and intent of this Ordinance to promote the health and genral welfare of the residents of the City of New Port Richey through the analysis of any impacts from blood plasma centers, body piercing establishments, check cashing stores, day labor establishments, pawn shops, tattoo parlors and on the cultivation, processing or dispensing of cannabis, and consideration on the criteria for the location of such uses within the City of New Port Richey.

SECTION 4. This moratorium shall remain in effect for 180 days from the effective date of this Ordinance or until such time as repealed by the City, whichever occurs first, and may be extended by resolution of the Council to the extent permitted by law.

SECTION 5. This moratorium may be enforced by any law or code enforcement officer. Any products or equipment found in connection with violation of this Ordinance may be seized and held by the enforcing entity as evidence to be used in any further proceeding.

(a) Methods of enforcement. The requirements of this moratorium may be enforced as follows:

(1) By citation for civil penalties pursuant to the authority granted by Section 166.0415, Fla. Stat., Chapter 162, Part II, Fla. Stat. and/or Article VIII of the City of New Port Richey Code of Ordinances. Each day of the violation shall constitute a separate offense, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.00 per count, or by imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed 60 days, by both such fine and imprisonment to the limits as set forth in Section 166.0415, Fla. Stat., or if enforcement is pursued under Chapter 162, Fla. Stat., the fines shall be as set by the City Council. The City may also seek entry of a court order requiring compliance with this ordinance.

(2) By an action for injunctive relief, civil penalties, or both, through a court of competent jurisdiction;

- (3) By revocation or temporary suspension of necessary permits and/or certificates or occupancy and/or licenses; and
- (4) By any other process permitted at law or equity.

Use of one enforcement process or theory does not preclude the City from seeking the same, different, or additional relief through other enforcement methods.

- (b) Persons responsible for violation. Persons responsible for violations include:
 - (1) any person who owns, operates, or manages the following uses: blood plasma centers, body piercing establishments, check cashing stores, day labor establishments, pawn shops, tattoo parlors and on the cultivation, processing or dispensing of cannabis;
 - (2) the owner of the premises (or lessee, if the premises are leased) where such activities occur;
 - (3) any person in physical control of the activities which may occur on the premises;
 - (4) if a responsible person is a corporate entity, the officers, directors, members, or other principals of the entity are jointly and severally responsible for violations by the entity; and
 - (5) any other person causing or contributing to a violation.

SECTION 6. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are suspended during the time period set forth in Section 1 above.

SECTION 7. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason, held invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, then such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

SECTION 8. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and adoption.

The above and foregoing Ordinance was read and approved on first reading at a duly convened meeting of the City Council of the City of New Port Richey, Florida, this 1st day of September, 2015 and adopted on second reading at a duly convened meeting of the City Council of the City of New Port Richey, Florida, this 15th day of September, 2015.

ATTEST:

By: _____
 Doreen M. Summers CAP-OM, CMC
 City Clerk

By: _____
 Robert Marlowe
 Mayor-Council Member

(Seal)

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
 FOR THE SOLE USE AND RELIANCE OF THE
 CITY OF NEW PORT RICHEY, FLORIDA:

 City Attorney, Joseph A. Poblick