

TEMPORARY ORDINANCE NO. 37-15

PERMANENT ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A NEW CHAPTER 705 OF THE LANCASTER CODIFIED ORDINANCES ENTITLED "OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREAS," TO PROVIDE THE PROCEDURES BY WHICH A SPECIFIC AREA OF THE CITY MAY BE DESIGNATED AS AN OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREA, AS PROVIDED FOR IN CHAPTER 4301.82 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE, AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, Council is committed to furthering economic development throughout the City of Lancaster and creating a welcoming, fun-filled atmosphere for residents and visitors, and;

WHEREAS, state law provides for the creation of outdoor refreshment areas, within which businesses with liquor permits may sell beer or intoxicating liquor for on-premises consumption and for consumption off-premises but within the outdoor refreshment area, and;

WHEREAS, the state law establishing outdoor refreshment areas allows for the modification of liquor permits within an outdoor refreshment area to allow for the purchase of beer or liquor for off-premises consumption, which will expand the enterprises of the businesses within an outdoor refreshment area, and;

WHEREAS, the creation of an outdoor refreshment area at a specific location in Lancaster will generally strengthen economic development in the area not only within but also in the vicinity of the outdoor refreshment area, and;

WHEREAS, Council is committed to attracting new businesses into the City and encouraging tourism and Lancaster's reputation as a destination city, and therefore expects the creation of outdoor refreshment areas where appropriate to accomplish these goals; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Lancaster, Fairfield County, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. That new Chapter 705 of the Lancaster Municipal Code, establishing "Outdoor Refreshment Areas," is hereby ordained as follows:

CHAPTER 705. OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREAS.

SECTION 705.01. Definitions

As used in this Chapter:

- (a) "Qualified permit holder" means the holder of an A-1, A-1-A, A-1c, A-2, or D permit issued under Chapter 4303 of the Ohio Revised Code ("ORC").
- (b) "Outdoor refreshment area" shall mean a designated territory in the city of Lancaster, no larger than one-half square mile, within which no fewer than four businesses with liquor permits may sell beer or intoxicating liquor for on-premises consumption and for consumption off-premises but within the outdoor refreshment area, in accordance with ORC §§ 4301.62 and 4301.82.

SECTION 705.02. CREATION OF OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREAS.

- (a) The Mayor may file an application with city council to have property within the city of Lancaster designated as an outdoor refreshment area or to expand an existing outdoor refreshment area to include additional property within the city, in accordance with ORC §§ 4301.62 and 4301.82. The Mayor or his or her designee shall ensure that the application contains all of the following:
- (1) A map or survey of the proposed outdoor refreshment area, which shall not exceed three hundred and twenty contiguous acres or one-half square mile, in sufficient detail to identify the boundaries of the area;
 - (2) A general statement of the nature and types of establishments that will be located within the proposed outdoor refreshment area;
 - (3) A statement that the proposed outdoor refreshment area will encompass not fewer than four qualified permit holders;
 - (4) Evidence that the uses of land within the proposed outdoor refreshment area are in accord with the master zoning plan or map of the city; and
 - (5) Proposed requirements for the purpose of ensuring safety within the proposed outdoor refreshment area.
- (b) Notice and time requirements.
- (1) Within forty-five days after the date the application is filed with city council, city council shall publish public notice of the application once a week for two consecutive weeks in one newspaper of general circulation in the city of Lancaster or as provided in ORC § 7.16. City council shall ensure that the notice states that the application is on file in the office of the clerk of council and is available for inspection by the public during regular business hours. City council also shall indicate in the notice the date and time of any public hearing to be held regarding the application by city council.
 - (2) Not earlier than thirty but not later than sixty days after the initial publication of notice, city council shall approve or disapprove the application by ordinance. Approval of an application requires an affirmative vote of a majority of city council.
- (c) Upon approval of the application by city council, the territory described in the application shall constitute an outdoor refreshment area. City council shall provide to the Ohio division of liquor control notice of the approval of the application and a description of the area specified in the application. If city council disapproves the application, the Mayor may make changes in the application to secure its approval by city council.
- (d) The number of outdoor refreshment areas is limited as provided in ORC § 4301.82 or any successor statute.
- (e) As soon as possible after receiving notice that an outdoor refreshment area has been approved, the Ohio division of liquor control, for purposes of ORC § 4301.62, shall issue an outdoor refreshment area designation to each qualified permit holder located within the refreshment area that is in compliance with all applicable requirements under ORC Chapters 4301 and 4303. The division shall not charge any fee for the issuance of the designation. Any permit holder that receives such a designation shall comply with all laws, rules, and regulations that govern its license type and, if applicable, any safety requirements established for the outdoor refreshment area under division (F) of this section.
- (f) Safety requirements and modification of existing outdoor refreshment areas.
- (1) At the time of the creation of an outdoor refreshment area or any time

thereafter, city council may adopt an ordinance that establishes requirements city council determines necessary to ensure safety within the area. City council may, but is not required to, include in the ordinance any safety requirements proposed in an application under division (a) of this section to designate or expand the outdoor refreshment area. City council may subsequently modify the safety requirements as it determines necessary.

- (2) Prior to adopting an ordinance under this subsection, city council shall give notice of its proposed action by publication once a week for two consecutive weeks in one newspaper of general circulation in the city of Lancaster or as provided in ORC § 7.16.
 - (3) City council shall provide to the division of liquor control notice of any safety requirements established or modified under this subsection.
- (g) ORC § 4399.18 applies to a liquor permit holder located within an outdoor refreshment area in the same manner as if the liquor permit holder were not located in an outdoor refreshment area.

SECTION 705.03. REVIEW AND RE-APPROVAL EXISTING OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREAS.

- (a) Five years after the date of creation of an outdoor refreshment area, city council shall review the operation of the area and shall, by ordinance, either approve the continued operation of the area or dissolve the area.
 - (1) Prior to adopting the ordinance, city council shall give notice of its proposed action by publication once a week for two consecutive weeks in one newspaper of general circulation in Lancaster or as provided in ORC § 7.16.
 - (2) If city council dissolves the outdoor refreshment area, the outdoor refreshment area ceases to exist. City council then shall provide notice of its action to the Ohio division of liquor control, and the division shall revoke all outdoor refreshment area designations issued to qualified permit holders within the dissolved area.
 - (3) If city council approves the continued operation of the outdoor refreshment area, the area continues in operation.
- (b) Five years after the approval of the continued operation of an outdoor refreshment area under division (a)(3) of this section, city council shall conduct a review in the same manner as provided in division (a) of this section. The legislative authority also shall conduct such a review five years after any subsequent approval of continued operation under this subsection of this section.
- (c) At any time, city council may, by ordinance, dissolve all or a part of the outdoor refreshment area.
 - (1) Prior to adopting the ordinance, city council shall give notice of its proposed action by publication once a week for two consecutive weeks in one newspaper of general circulation in Lancaster or as provided in ORC § 7.16.
 - (2) If city council dissolves all or part of an outdoor refreshment area, the area designated in the ordinance shall no longer constitute an outdoor refreshment area. City council shall provide notice of its

actions to the division of liquor control. Upon receipt of the notice, the division shall revoke all outdoor refreshment area designations issued to qualified permit holders within the dissolved area or portion of the area.

SECTION 705.04. RULES GOVERNING PATRONS IN AN OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREA.

- (a) A person may possess an opened container of beer or intoxicating liquor at an outdoor location within an outdoor refreshment area created under ORC § 4301.82 if the opened container of beer or intoxicating liquor was purchased from a qualified permit holder to which both of the following apply:
 - (1) The permit holder's premises is located within the outdoor refreshment area; and
 - (2) The permit held by the permit holder has an outdoor refreshment area designation.
- (b) Subsection (A) of this section does not authorize a person to do either of the following:
 - (1) Enter the premises of an establishment within an outdoor refreshment area while possessing an open container of beer or intoxicating liquor acquired elsewhere; or
 - (2) Possess an opened container of beer or intoxicating liquor while being in or on a motor vehicle within an outdoor refreshment area, unless the motor vehicle is stationary and is not being operated in a lane of vehicular travel or unless the possession is otherwise authorized under divisions (D), (E), or (F) of ORC § 4301.62.

SECTION 2. That this ordinance shall be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety and general welfare and shall be effective immediately. The reason for the emergency is the immediate need to implement regulations for the Outdoor Refreshment Areas as soon as possible.

Passed: _____ after _____ reading. Vote: Yeas _____ Nays _____

Approved: _____

President of Council

Clerk: _____

Mayor

Offered by: _____

Second by: _____

Requested by Law Committee

I, Teresa L. Sandy, Clerk of Council do hereby certify that on _____, 2015 the Lancaster Eagle Gazette published the summary of this ordinance in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 731.24.

Clerk of Council