

ORDINANCE NO. 7636-20

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REORDAIN THE CODE OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA, BY AMENDING CHAPTER 43, WEAPONS, BY AMENDING SECTION 43-1, DEFINITIONS, AND BY ADDING THERETO A NEW SECTION, NAMELY, SECTION 43-3, PROHIBITION ON POSSESSION OF FIREARMS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Newport News, Virginia:

1. That Chapter 43, Weapons, of the Code of the City of Newport News, Virginia, Article I., In General, be, and the same hereby is, amended and reordained by amending Section 43-1, Definitions, and by adding thereto a new section, namely, Section 43-3, Prohibition on possession of firearms.

CHAPTER 43

WEAPONS

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 43-1. Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter, the following words and terms shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them by this section:

Ammunition for a firearm. The term "ammunition for a firearm" shall mean the combination of a cartridge, projectile, primer, or propellant designed for use in a firearm other than an antique firearm as defined in § 18.2-308.2:2 of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended.

Firearm. The word "firearm" shall mean any handgun, shotgun, or rifle that will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel single or multiple projectiles by the action of an explosion of a combustible material.

Pneumatic gun. The term "pneumatic gun" shall mean any implement, designed as a gun, that will expel a BB or a pellet by action of pneumatic pressure. "Pneumatic gun" includes a paintball gun that expels by action of pneumatic pressure plastic balls filled with paint for the purpose of marking the point of impact.

Sec. 43-3. Prohibition on possession of firearms.

- (a) No person shall openly possess, carry or transport any firearm, ammunition for a firearm, or any components or combination thereof in any of the following locations:
- (1) any building, or portion thereof, owned by the City of Newport News or any authority or local governmental entity created or controlled by the City of Newport News;
 - (2) any building, or portion thereof, that is being used for governmental purposes by the City of Newport News or any authority or local governmental entity created or controlled by the City of Newport News;
 - (3) any recreation or community center facility, or public park, owned or operated by the City of Newport News or by any authority or local governmental entity created or controlled by the City of Newport News;
 - (4) any public street, road, alley, or sidewalk or public right-of-way or any other place of whatever nature that is open to the public and is being used for a City sponsored event.
- (b) Notice of the prohibitions created by this section shall be posted conspicuously at all entrances to the locations identified in subsection (a).
- (c) Exceptions. The provisions of this section shall not apply to:
- (1) duly authorized law enforcement officers;
 - (2) duly authorized military personnel in the performance of their lawful duties;
 - (3) City of Newport News Park Rangers;
 - (4) duly authorized employees of the City of Newport News fire department assigned to the fire marshal's office or bomb team, in the performance of their lawful duties;
 - (5) authorized participants in City sponsored educational programs, such as battle re-enactments or living history demonstrations;
 - (6) security guards employed or retained by the City of Newport News or by any authority or local governmental entity created or controlled by the City of Newport News, in the performance of their lawful duties;

- (7) the activities of (i) a Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program operated at a public or private institution of higher education in accordance with the provisions of 10 U.S.C. § 2101 et seq or (ii) any intercollegiate athletics program operated by a public or private institution of higher education and governed by the National Collegiate Athletic Association or any club sports team recognized by a public or private institution of higher education where the sport engaged in by such program or team involves the use of a firearm. Such activities shall follow strict guidelines developed by such institutions for these activities and shall be conducted under the supervision of staff officials of such institutions;
 - (8) any individually authorized hunting or game reduction program expressly permitted by an official of a public or private institution of higher education;
 - (9) an otherwise lawfully possessed firearm and/or ammunition for a firearm stored in a locked private motor vehicle.
 - (10) the lawful possession of a concealed handgun pursuant to a valid concealed handgun permit.
- (d) Violations of this section shall be punishable by a civil penalty of five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

2. That this ordinance shall be in effect on and after the date of its adoption, July 14, 2020.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS ON JULY 14, 2020

Mabel Washington Jenkins, MMC
City Clerk

McKinley L. Price, DDS
Mayor

A true copy, teste:

City Clerk