

**ORDINANCE 2009-55**

**TO BE ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF FRANKLIN MUNICIPAL CODE, TITLE 11, CHAPTER 4 OFFENSES AGAINST THE PEACE AND QUIET."**

**WHEREAS**, it has come to the attention of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen that the current sections of the City of Franklin Municipal Code regarding noise violations are outdated and unenforceable; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Franklin, Tennessee, believes it is in the best interest of the citizens of the City to update the existing noise ordinance to bring it in line with current technology and to make it more enforceable; and

**NOW, THEREFORE:**

**SECTION I: BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF FRANKLIN, Tennessee, that Chapter 4 of Title 11 shall be deleted in its entirety and the following substituted in lieu thereof:**

**CHAPTER 4. OFFENSES AGAINST THE PEACE AND QUIET**

**11-401. Definitions.**

- (1) "Ambient noise" means the all encompassing noise associated with a given environment being usually a composite of sounds from many sources, near and far.
- (2) "City" shall mean the City of Franklin, Tennessee.
- (3) "Commercial" means and shall include areas of the City of Franklin zoned GO, NC, CC, GC, and CI.
- (4) "Emergency work" means work made necessary to restore property to a safe condition following a public calamity or work required to protect persons or property from any imminent exposure to danger.
- (5) "Industrial" means and shall include areas of the City of Franklin zoned LI and HI.
- (6) "Mixed Use" means and shall include the areas of the City of Franklin zoned MX and ML.
- (7) "Person" means any person, person's firm, association, co-partnership, joint venture, corporation or any entity public or private in nature.
- (8) "Public premise" means all real property, including appurtenances thereon, which is owned or controlled by any public governmental entity and shall include streets, alleys, parks and navigable waterways, but shall not include any public property leased to any nongovernmental entities.
- (9) "Real property boundary" means a line along the ground surface, and its vertical extension, which separates the real property owned by one (1) person or entity from that owned by another person or entity, but not including intrabuilding real property divisions.
- (10) "Residential" means and shall include areas the City of Franklin zoned ER, MR, R1, R2, R3, R6, RX, MN, M2, and OR and any subsequent residential or office zone created by ordinance.
- (11) "Sound amplification device" means any apparatus for the amplification of sounds from any radio-phonograph, band, orchestra or other sound-making or sound-producing device, including any apparatus for the amplification of the human voice.

**11-402. Disturbing the Peace.**

No person shall disturb, tend to disturb, or aid in disturbing the peace of others by violent, tumultuous, offensive, or obstreperous conduct, and no person shall knowingly permit such conduct upon any premises owned or possessed by him or under his control.

**11-403. Unnecessary Noise Standard.**

- (1) *Residential Zoning Districts.* No person shall cause, suffer, allow or permit sound from any source, sound which is plainly audible between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday.
- (2) *Commercial and Industrial Zoning Districts.* No person shall cause, suffer, allow or permit amplified sound which is plainly audible when measured at least one hundred (100) feet from the real property boundary of the source of the sound between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday.
- (3) *Mixed Use Districts.* Amplification of sound in any outdoor setting located in or within fifty (50) feet of a residential section of the Mixed Use Development which is plainly audible is prohibited between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday except for special events where a special permit has been obtained from the City of Franklin authorizing such event. No person shall cause, suffer, allow or permit sound from any sound from any source, sound which is plainly audible in the residential section of the Mixed Use Development between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

**11-404. Loud, Unusual or Unnecessary Noises Prohibited; Criteria; Other Prohibited Noises.**

- (1) Consistent with other provisions of this chapter, and notwithstanding Section 11-403, it shall be unlawful for any person within the limits of the City to make, produce, cause, suffer, continue or allow to be produced or continued by human voice, machine, animal, or device, or any combination of same, any unreasonably loud, unusual or unnecessary noise which disturbs the peace and quiet of any neighborhood, or which causes discomfort or annoyance to any reasonable person of normal sensitivity residing in the area, or which otherwise injures or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace, safety or welfare of others.
- (2) *General provisions; tests for unlawful noise.* The standards which shall be considered in determining whether a violation of this section exists shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:
  - a. The volume of the noise.
  - b. The intensity of the noise.
  - c. Whether the nature of the noise is usual or unusual.
  - d. Whether the origin of the noise is natural or unnatural.
  - e. The volume and intensity of the background noise, if any.
  - f. The proximity of the noise to residential sleeping facilities.

- g. The nature and zoning of the area within which the noise emanates.
- h. The density of inhabitation of the area within which the noise emanates.
- i. The time of the day or night the noise occurs.
- j. The duration of the noise.
- k. Whether the noise is recurrent, intermittent or constant.
- l. Whether the noise is produced by a commercial or non commercial activity.

(3) The following acts, among others, are declared to be loud, disturbing and unnecessary noises in violation of this section, even if the noises referred to do not violate the noise standards set forth in section 11-403 above:

- a. *Horns, signaling devices, etc.* The sounding of any horn or signaling device on any automobile, motorcycle, truck or other vehicle on any street or public place of the City except as a danger warning; the creation by means of any such signaling device of any unreasonably loud or harsh sound; and the sounding of any such device for an unnecessary and unreasonable period of time. The use of any signaling device except one operated by hand or electricity; the use of any horn, whistle or other device operated by engine exhaust; and the use of any such signaling device when traffic is for any reason held up.
- b. *Loudspeakers, amplifiers for advertising.* The using, operating, or permitting to be played, used, or operated of any radio receiving set, musical instrument, phonograph, loudspeaker, sound amplifier, or other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of sound which is broadcast upon the public streets for the purpose of commercial advertising is or attraction the attention of the public to any building or structure.
- c. *Yelling, shouting etc.* Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling, or singing on the public streets, or in the parking lots of commercial business open to the public, particularly between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. or at any time or place so as to annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort, or repose of persons in any office, or in any dwelling hotel or other type of residence, or of any persons in the vicinity. If the owner or manager of a commercial enterprise operates his business and is open to the public between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. or at any time on Sunday or holidays, he shall locate his customer parking so his customers and patrons will not violate this chapter. A failure of the owner or manager to so locate his customer parking constitutes a violation of this chapter, when a customer or patron is convicted of violation of this chapter provided the owner or manager permits customer or patron parking within one hundred (100) feet of a residential zone.
- d. *Animals, birds, etc.* The keeping of any animal or bird which by causing frequent or long continued noise shall disturb the comfort or repose of any persons in the vicinity.
- e. *Steam whistles.* The blowing of any locomotive steam whistle or steam whistle attached to any stationary boiler except to give notice of the time to begin or stop work or as a warning of fire or danger, or upon request of proper city authorities.
- f. *Exhausts.* The discharge into the open air of the exhaust of any steam engine, stationary internal combustion engine, motor boat, or other vehicle through a muffler or other device which will effectively prevent loud or explosive noises there from.
- g. *Defect in vehicle or load.* The use of any automobile, motorcycle, or vehicle so out of repair, so loaded or in such manner as to create loud and unnecessary grating, grinding, rattling or other noise.

- h. ***Loading, unloading, opening boxes.*** The creation of a loud and excessive noise in connection with loading or unloading any vehicle or dumpster or the opening and destruction of bales, boxes, crates and containers, particularly other than during the hours between 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- i. ***Construction or repairing of buildings.*** The erection (including excavation), construction, demolition, alteration or repair of any building other than between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on weekdays, and from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Work may also begin on Saturdays at 7:00 a.m. if it would not result in any loud, disturbing, or unnecessary noise that would otherwise violate this chapter. City Holidays shall be considered as a Sunday for purposes of this section. If the City Administrator or his designee should determine that the interest of the public health and safety are served, by the erection, demolition, alteration or repair of any building or the excavation of streets or highways within the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. and if he shall determine that any loss of inconvenience that might result is outweighed by the public's interest in its safety and welfare, he may grant permission for such work to be done within the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. upon application being made at the time the permit for the work is awarded or during the progress of the work.
- j. ***Schools, courts, churches, hospitals.*** The creation of any excessive noise on any street adjacent to any school institution of learning, church or court while the same are in use, or adjacent to any hospital, which unreasonably interferes with the workings of such institutions, or which disturbs or unduly annoys patients in the hospital provided conspicuous signs are displayed in such street, indicating the same is a school hospital or court street.
- k. ***Hawkers, peddlers.*** The shouting and crying of peddlers, hawkers and vendors which disturbs the peace and quiet of the neighborhood.
- l. ***Drums.*** The use of any drum or other instrument or device for the purpose of attracting attention by creation of noise to any performance show or sale.
- m. ***Metal rails, pillars and columns, transportation thereof.*** The transportation of rails, pillars or columns of iron, steel or other material, over and along streets and other public places upon carts, trays, cars, trucks, or in any manner so loaded as to cause loud noises or as to disturb the peace of such streets or other public places.
- n. ***Pile drivers, hammers, etc.*** The operation between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. of any pile driver, steam shovel, pneumatic hammer, derrick, steam or electric hoist or other appliance, the use of which is attended by loud or unusual noise.
- o. ***Blowers.*** The operation of any blower or power fan or any combustion engine, the operation of which causes noise due to the explosion of operating gases or fluids, unless the noises from such blower or fan is muffled and such engine is equipped with a muffler device sufficient to deaden such noise.
- p. ***Noise from motor vehicle audio equipment.*** No person shall use or operate any radio, tape player, record player, compact disc player or any similar device in or on a motor vehicle located on the public streets of the City, property owned or leased by the City, or within a public park, within a public parking lot or on any other public premise with the City, which is audible to a person of normal hearing sensitivity more than fifty (50) feet from such vehicle, nor shall any person use or operate any radio, tape player, record player, compact disc player or any similar device in or on a motor vehicle located on private property which is audible to a person of normal hearing sensitivity more than fifty (50) feet outside the real property boundary of said property. Words and phrases need not be discernible for said sound to be "audible."

**11-405. Exemptions.**

The following uses and activities shall be exempt from noise level regulations:

- a. Noises of safety signals, warning devices, and emergency pressure relief valves.
- b. Noises resulting from any authorized emergency vehicle, when responding to an emergency call or acting in time of emergency.
- c. Noises resulting from emergency work as defined in the Franklin Municipal Code, as amended.
- d. Any aircraft operated in conformity with, or pursuant to, federal law, federal air regulations, and air traffic control instruction used pursuant to and within the duly adopted federal air regulations shall be exempt from the provisions of chapter. Any aircraft operating under technical difficulties, in any kind of distress, under emergency orders of air traffic control or being operated pursuant to and subsequent to the declaration of an emergency under the federal air regulations shall also be exempt from the provisions of this chapter.
- e. Any vehicle or equipment of the City or a public utility while engaged in necessary public business.
- f. Excavations or repairs of bridges, streets, or highways by or on behalf of the City, the county, or the state during the night, when the public welfare and convenience renders it impossible to perform such work during the day.
- g. Emergency activities of the City, the county or the state and emergency activities of public utilities when they are seeking to provide electricity, water or other public utility services and the public health, safety or welfare is involved.
- h. Use of domestic power equipment (including, but not limited to, power lawn mowers, leaf blowers, trimmers, snow blowers, tillers, saws, sanders, drills or similar devices) between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.
- i. Attendant on-site noise and the playing of instruments connected with the actual performance or practice of organized sporting events or school events held on school campuses and in publicly owned parks or facilities.
- j. Human sounds emanating from children including, but not limited to, speech and utterances of laughter, cries and, sounds associated with play.
- k. Sounds lasting no more than five (5) minutes in any one (1) hour created by bells, chimes, carillons or by electronic or mechanical devices that reproduce such sounds, while used in connection with a religious institution, school, or clock or bell tower.

**11-406. Application for Special Permit.**

- (1) Applications for a special permit for relief from the noise level designated in this section on the basis of undue hardship may be made to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. Any permit granted by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen herein under shall contain all conditions upon which said permit has been granted and shall specify a reasonable time that the permit shall be effective. The Board of Mayor and Aldermen may grant the relief as applied for, if it finds:
  - a. That additional time is necessary for the applicant to alter or modify his activity or operation to comply with this section; or
  - b. The activity, operation or noise source will be of temporary duration, and cannot be done in a manner that would comply with other subsections of this section; and
  - c. That no other reasonable alternative is available to the applicant; and

- d. The Board of Mayor and Aldermen may prescribe any conditions it deems necessary to minimize adverse effects upon the community or the surrounding neighborhood.
- (2) Applications for relief from the noise level in this section for the purpose of a public parade, street fair or similar activity and conducted by a public entity, agency or committee thereof may be made to the Mayor or City Administrator. The Mayor and City Administrator are each authorized to issue for said purposes.

**11-407. Penalty for Violation.**

Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in the amount of fifty dollars (\$50.00). Each day such violation is committed or permitted to continue is a separate offense.

**11-408. Additional Remedy; Injunction.**

As an additional remedy, the operation or maintenance of any device, instrument, vehicle or machinery in violation of any provision hereof and which causes discomfort or annoyance to reasonable persons of normal sensitiveness or which endangers the comfort, repose, health or peace of residents in the area shall be deemed, and is to be, a public nuisance and may be subject to abatement summarily by a restraining order or injunction issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.

**11-409. Severability.**

It is the intention of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen that each separate provision of this section shall be deemed independent of all other provisions herein, and it is further the intention of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen that if any provisions thereof shall remain valid and enforceable.

**SECTION II. BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF FRANKLIN, Tennessee, that this Ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage on second and final reading, the public health, safety and welfare requiring it.**

**ATTEST:**

**CITY OF FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE**

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
**ERIC S. STUCKEY**  
City Recorder/Administrator

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
**DR. KEN MOORE**  
Mayor

PASSED FIRST READING

\_\_\_\_\_

PASSED SECOND READING

\_\_\_\_\_



HISTORIC  
FRANKLIN  
TENNESSEE

ITEM #10  
WRKS 06/28/2011

## MEMORANDUM

June 17, 2011

**TO:** Board of Mayor and Aldermen

**FROM:** Eric S. Stuckey, City Administrator *ES*  
Shauna R. Billingsley, City Attorney  
David Rahinsky, Interim Police Chief

**SUBJECT:** Noise Ordinance – Ordinance 2009-55

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### Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to present to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BOMA) a newly revised noise ordinance for consideration.

### Background

Over the past few years, there have been complaints from citizens of loud music coming from business establishments around the City. In responding to these complaints, it has come to City staff's attention that our current noise ordinance was outdated and appeared to have significant limitation related to enforcement. At the May 10, 2011 work session, the Board discussed a revised ordinance that deleted reference to decibel readings and instead simply state that it is a violation to produce noise that can be heard a certain distance from the property line (50 feet was proposed at that time) during certain times of day. The Board discussion identified the need to consider a specific focus on amplified sound in commercial areas and general sound concerns within a residential zone. The Board also asked that consideration be given to differentiating between weekend (Friday and Saturday) and weekday (Sunday through Thursday) evenings. City Staff also met with groups of business owners and residents to gain their feedback and insights related to the ordinance.

After consideration of input from the Board, local business owners and residents, staff has made further revisions to the noise ordinance. A red-lined version of the revised ordinance is attached. The revised ordinance includes the following key components:

- The decibel reading standards continue to be removed.
- Residential zoning districts limit "plainly audible" noise from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. Friday and Saturday.
- Commercial and industrial zoning districts prohibit "plainly audible" amplified sound measured from a distance of 100 feet from the property line from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. Friday and Saturday.
- Mixed use districts prohibit "plainly audible" amplified sound measured from a distance of 50 feet of the residential sections of the mixed use development from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Mixed use districts also prohibit any sound within the residential sections from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. Friday and Saturday.



HISTORIC  
FRANKLIN  
TENNESSEE

## MEMORANDUM

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- The ordinance also provides for the ability to prohibit “unreasonably loud” noise at any other times notwithstanding the time restrictions described above.

Our goal continues to be to provide a stronger, more enforceable and more understandable noise ordinance under which the City of Franklin Police can issue citations for violations. An ordinance that can be more easily understood by citizens and business owners should ultimately facilitate compliance with the ordinance.

### **Financial Impact**

There is little to no financial impact of this ordinance.

### **Recommendation**

Approval of the proposed ordinance is recommended.



## CHAPTER 4. - OFFENSES AGAINST THE PEACE AND QUIET

### ~~Sec. 11-401.~~ -Definitions.

- (1) "Ambient noise" means the all encompassing noise associated with a given environment being usually a composite of sounds from many sources, near and far.
- (2) "City" shall mean the City of Franklin, Tennessee.
- (3) "Commercial" means and shall include areas of the City of Franklin zoned GO, NC, CC, GC, and CI.
- (4) "Emergency work" means work made necessary to restore property to a safe condition following a public calamity or work required to protect persons or property from any imminent exposure to danger.
- (5) "Industrial" means and shall include areas of the City of Franklin zoned LI and HI.
- (6) "Mixed Use" means and shall include the areas of the City of Franklin zoned MX and ML.
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- (8) "Public premise" means all real property, including appurtenances thereon, which is owned or controlled by any public governmental entity and shall include streets, alleys, parks and navigable waterways, but shall not include any public property leased to any nongovernmental entities.
- (9) "Real property boundary" means a line along the ground surface, and its vertical extension, which separates the real property owned by one (1) person or entity from that owned by another person or entity, but not including intrabuilding real property divisions.
- (10) "Residential" means and shall include areas the City of Franklin zoned ER, MR, R1, R2, R3, R6, RX, MN, M2, and OR and any subsequent residential or office zone created by ordinance.
- (11) "Sound amplification device" means any apparatus for the amplification of sounds from any radio-phonograph, band, orchestra or other sound-making or sound-producing device, including any apparatus for the amplification of the human voice.

### 11-402. Disturbing the ~~peace.~~ Peace.

No person shall disturb, tend to disturb, or aid in disturbing the peace of others by violent, tumultuous, offensive, or obstreperous conduct, and no person shall knowingly permit such conduct upon any premises owned or possessed by him or under his control.

~~(1976 Code, § 10-202)~~

### ~~Sec. 11-402.~~ -403. Unnecessary ~~noise standard.~~ Noise Standard.

- (1) ~~(1) — Subject to the provisions of this subsection~~ Residential Zoning Districts. No person shall cause, suffer, allow or permit sound from any ~~loud noise or noise, source, sound which either annoys, disturbs,~~ is plainly audible between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday.
- (2) Commercial and Industrial Zoning Districts. No person shall cause, suffer, allow or permit amplified sound which is plainly audible when measured at least one

hundred (100) feet from the real property boundary of the source of the sound between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

- (3) Mixed Use Districts. Amplification of sound in any outdoor setting located in or within fifty (50) feet of a residential section of the Mixed Use Development which is plainly audible is prohibited between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday except for special events where a special permit has been obtained from the City of Franklin authorizing such event. No person shall cause, suffer, allow or permit sound from any sound from any source, sound which is plainly audible in the residential section of the Mixed Use Development between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

**11-404. Loud, Unusual or Unnecessary Noises Prohibited; Criteria; Other Prohibited Noises.**

- (1) Consistent with other provisions of this chapter, and notwithstanding Section 11-403, it shall be unlawful for any person within the limits of the City to make, produce, cause, suffer, continue or allow to be produced or continued by human voice, machine, animal, or device, or any combination of same, any unreasonably loud, unusual or unnecessary noise which disturbs the peace and quiet of any neighborhood, or which causes discomfort or annoyance to any reasonable person of normal sensitivity residing in the area, or which otherwise injures or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace ~~or~~, safety or welfare of others, ~~within the limit of the city shall be prohibited.~~
- (2) General provisions; tests for unlawful noise. The standards which shall be considered in determining whether a violation of this section exists shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:
- a. The volume of the noise
  - b. The intensity of the noise.
  - c. Whether the nature of the noise is usual or unusual
  - d. Whether the origin of the noise is natural or unnatural.
  - e. The volume and intensity of the background noise, if any.
  - f. The proximity of the noise to residential sleeping facilities.
  - g. The nature and zoning of the area within which the noise emanates
  - h. The density of inhabitation of the area within which the noise emanates.
  - i. The time of the day or night the noise occurs.
  - j. The duration of the noise.
  - k. Whether the noise is recurrent, intermittent or constant.
  - l. Whether the noise is produced by a commercial or non commercial activity.
- ~~(2)~~(3) The following acts, among others, are declared to be loud, disturbing and unnecessary noises in violation of this section, ~~but said enumeration shall not be deemed to be exclusive, namely~~ even if the noises referred to do not violate the noise standards set forth in section 11-403 above:

a. ~~(a)~~ — *Horns, signaling devices, etc.* The sounding of any horn or signaling device on any automobile, motorcycle, truck or other vehicle on any street or public place of the ~~city,~~ City except as a danger warning; the creation by means of any such signaling device of any unreasonably loud or harsh sound; and the sounding of any such device for an unnecessary and unreasonable period of time. The use of any signaling device except one operated by hand or electricity; the use of any horn, whistle or other device operated by engine exhaust; and the use of any such signaling device when traffic is for any reason held up.

~~(b)~~ — *Radio, phonographs, live bands, amplifiers, loudspeakers, etc.* The using, operating, or permitting to be played, used or operated any radio receiving set, musical instrument, phonograph, live band, amplifiers, loudspeakers, or other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of sound in such manner as to disturb the peace, quiet and comfort of the neighboring inhabitants or at any time with louder volume than is necessary for convenient hearing for the person or persons who are in the room, vehicle or chamber in which such live band, machine or device is operated and who are voluntary listeners thereto. The operation of any such set, instrument, phonograph, live band, machine or device between the hours of 11:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M. in such a manner as to be plainly audible at a distance of 50 feet from the building, structure or vehicle in which it is located shall be prima facie evidence of a violation of this section.

b. ~~(c)~~ — *Loudspeakers, amplifiers for advertising.* The using, operating, or permitting to be played, used, or operated of any radio receiving set, musical instrument, phonograph, loudspeaker, sound amplifier, or other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of sound which is broadcast upon the public streets for the purpose of commercial advertising ~~is~~ or ~~attracting~~ attraction the attention of the public to any building or structure.

c. ~~(d)~~ — *Yelling, shouting, etc.* Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling, or singing on the public streets, or in the parking lots of commercial business open to the public, particularly between the hours of 11:00 ~~P.M.~~ p.m. and 7:00 ~~A.M.~~ a.m. or at ~~anytime~~ any time or place so as to annoy or disturb the quiet, comfort, or repose of persons in any office, or in any dwelling, hotel or other type of residence, or of any persons in the vicinity. If the owner or manager of a commercial enterprise operates his business and is open to the public between the hours of 11:00 ~~P.M.~~ p.m. and 7:00 ~~A.M.~~ a.m. or at ~~anytime~~ any time on Sunday or holidays, he shall locate his customer parking so his customers and patrons will not violate this chapter. A failure of the owner or manager to so locate his customer parking constitutes a violation of this chapter, when a customer or patron is convicted of violation of this ~~subsection (d)~~ chapter provided the owner or manager permits customer or patron parking within one hundred (100) feet of a residential zone.

- d. ~~(e)~~ — *Animals, birds, etc.* The keeping of any animal or bird which by causing frequent or long continued noise shall disturb the comfort or repose of any persons in the vicinity.
- e. ~~(f)~~ — *Steam whistles.* The blowing of any locomotive steam whistle or steam whistle attached to any stationary boiler except to give notice of the time to begin or stop work or as a warning of fire or danger, or upon request of proper city authorities.
- f. ~~(g)~~ — *Exhausts.* The discharge into the open air of the exhaust of any steam engine, stationary internal combustion engine, motor boat, or other vehicle ~~except~~ through a muffler or other device which will effectively prevent loud or explosive noises ~~therefrom.~~ there from.
- g. ~~(h)~~ — *Defect in vehicle or load.* The use of any automobile, motorcycle, or vehicle so out of repair, so loaded or in such manner as to create loud and unnecessary grating, grinding, rattling or other noise.
- h. ~~(i)~~ — *Loading, unloading, opening boxes.* The creation of a loud and excessive noise in connection with loading or unloading any vehicle or dumpster or the opening and destruction of bales, boxes, crates and containers, particularly other than during the hours between 6:00 ~~A.M.~~ a.m. and 6:00 ~~P.M.~~ p.m.
- i. ~~(j)~~ — *Construction or repairing of buildings.* The erection (including excavation), construction, demolition, alteration or repair of any building other than between the hours of 7:00 ~~A.M.~~ a.m. and 6:00 ~~P.M.~~ p.m. on weekdays, and from 9:00 ~~A.M.~~ a.m. to 6:00 ~~P.M.~~ p.m. on ~~Saturday.~~ Saturdays. Work may also begin on Saturdays at 7:00 ~~A.M.~~ a.m. if it would not result in any loud, disturbing, or unnecessary noise that would otherwise violate this chapter. City ~~holidays~~ Holidays shall be considered as a Sunday for purposes of this section. ¶ → If the ~~city administrator~~ City Administrator or his designee should determine that the interest of the public health and safety are served, by the erection, demolition, alteration or repair of any building or the excavation of streets or highways within the hours of ~~6:00 P.M.~~ p.m. and 7:00 ~~A.M.,~~ a.m. and if he shall determine that any loss of inconvenience that might result is outweighed by the ~~public's~~ public's interest in its safety and welfare, he may grant permission for such work to be done within the hours of 6:00 ~~P.M.~~ p.m. and 7:00 ~~A.M.,~~ a.m. upon application being made at the time the permit for the work is awarded or during the progress of the work.
- j. ~~(k)~~ — *Schools, courts, churches, hospitals.* The creation of any excessive noise on any street adjacent to any school, institution of learning, church or court while the same are in use, or adjacent to any hospital, which unreasonably interferes with the workings of such institutions, or which disturbs or unduly annoys patients in the hospital, ~~provided~~ provided conspicuous signs are displayed in such ~~streets~~ street, indicating ~~that~~ the same is a school, hospital or court street.
- k. ~~(l)~~ — *Hawkers, peddlers.* The shouting and crying of peddlers, hawkers and vendors which disturbs the peace and quiet of the neighborhood.

- l. ~~(m)~~ — *Drums.* The use of any drum or other instrument or device for the purpose of attracting attention by creation of noise to any performance, show or sale.
- m. ~~(n)~~ — *Metal rails, pillars and columns, transportation thereof.* The transportation of rails, pillars, or columns of iron, steel or other material, over and along streets and other public places upon carts, trays, cars, trucks, or in any ~~other~~ manner so loaded as to cause loud noises or as to disturb the peace of such streets or other public places.
- n. ~~(o)~~ — *Pile drivers, hammers, etc.* The operation between the hours of 6:00 ~~P.M.~~p.m. and 7:00 ~~A.M.~~a.m. of any pile driver, steam shovel, pneumatic hammer, derrick, steam or electric hoist or other appliance, the use of which is attended by loud or unusual noise.
- o. ~~(p)~~ — *Blowers.* The operation of any ~~noise-creating~~ blower or power fan or any ~~internal~~ combustion engine, the operation of which causes noise due to the explosion of operating gases or fluids, unless the noises from such blower or fan is muffled and such engine is equipped with a muffler device sufficient to deaden such noise.

~~(2) — General provisions: tests for unlawful noise. The standards which shall be considered in determining whether a violation of section 11-402(1) exists shall include, but shall not be limited to, the following:~~

- ~~(a) — The volume of the noise.~~
- ~~(b) — The intensity of the noise.~~
- ~~(c) — Whether the nature of the noise is usual or unusual.~~
- ~~(d) — Whether the origin of the noise is natural or unnatural.~~
- ~~(e) — The volume and intensity of the background noise, if any.~~
- ~~(f) — The proximity of the noise to residential sleeping facilities.~~
- ~~(g) — The nature and zoning of the area within which the noise emanates.~~
- ~~(h) — The density of inhabitation of the area within which the noise emanates.~~
- ~~(i) — The time of the day or night the noise occurs.~~
- ~~(j) — The duration of the noise.~~
- ~~(k) — Whether the noise is recurrent, intermittent or constant.~~
- ~~(l) — Whether the noise is produced by a commercial or non-commercial activity.~~

~~(3) — Decibel provisions.~~

~~(a) — Definitions. For the purposes of this subsection of this section, certain words and phrases used herein are defined as follows:~~

~~(i) *Ambient noise* is the all-encompassing noise associated with a given environment, being usually a composite of sounds from many sources, near and far.~~

~~(ii) *A band level* is the total sound level of all noise as measured with a sound level meter using the "A" weighing network. The unit of measurement of the dB(A).~~

~~(iii) *Bel* is a unit of level when the base of logarithm is ten. Use of the bel is restricted to levels of quantities proportional to power.~~

~~(iv) *Decibel* is one-tenth of a bel and is a unit of level when the base of the logarithm is the tenth root of ten and the quantities concerned are proportional to power.~~

~~(v) *Spectrum* is a function of time and is a description of its resolution into components, each of different frequency and usually of different amplitude and phase and is also used to signify continuous range of components usually wide in extent within which waves have some specified characteristics such as "audio-frequency spectrum" and is also applied to functions of variables other than time.~~

~~(vi) *Sound pressure level* in decibels, of sound is 20 time the logarithm to the base ten of the ratio of the pressure of this sound to the reference pressure, which pressure must be explicitly stated.~~

~~(vii) *Band pressure level* of sound for a specified frequency band is the sound pressure level for the sound contained within the restricted bank. The reference pressure must be specified.~~

~~(viii) *Cycle* is the complete sequence of values of a periodic quantity that occur during a period.~~

~~(ix) *Frequency* of a function periodic in time is the reciprocal of the primitive period. The unit is the cycle per unit time and must be specified.~~

~~(x) *Microbar* is a unit of pressure commonly used in acoustics and is equal to one dyne per square centimeter.~~

~~(xi) *Period* of a periodic quantity is the smallest increment of time for which the function repeats itself.~~

~~(xii) *Periodic quantity* is an oscillating quantity, the values of which recur for equal increments of time.~~

~~(xiii) *Sound-level meter* is an instrument including a microphone, an amplifier, an output meter, and frequency weighting networks for the measurement of noise and sound levels in a specified manner.~~

~~(xiv) Sound analyzer is a device for measuring the bandpressure level or pressure spectrum level of a sound as a function of frequency.~~

~~(xv) Person is any person, person's firm, association, co-partnership, joint venture, corporation or any entity public or private in nature.~~

~~(xvi) Emergency work is work made necessary to restore property to a safe condition following a public calamity or work required to protect persons or property from any imminent exposure to danger.~~

~~All technical definitions are in accordance with the American Standards S1-1-1960 entitled Acoustical Terminology.~~

~~(b) Classification of use districts, residential, industrial, commercial. For the purpose of this section, the reference to "residential" shall include areas of the City of Franklin zoned ER, LR, MR, HR, GR, PR, OR, and PC and any subsequent residential or office zone created by ordinance; "commercial" shall include areas of the City of Franklin zoned GO, NC, CC, GC, and IC; "industrial" shall include areas of the City of Franklin zoned LI and HI. It shall be unlawful to project a sound or noise excluding noise emanating from cars, trucks, or motorcycles from one property into another, within the boundary of a use district which exceeds either the limiting noise specter set forth in Table 1 below, or exceeds the ambient noise level by more than three decibels.~~

~~(i) Sound or noise projecting from one use district, into another use district with a different noise level limit, shall not exceed the limits of the district into which the noise is projected.~~

~~(ii) Measurement of noise.~~

~~(A) The measurement of sound or noise may be made with a sound level meter and octave band analyzer meeting the standards prescribed by the American Standards Association. The instruments shall be maintained in calibration and good working order. Octave band corrections may be employed in meeting the response specification. Calibration check shall be made of the system at the time of any noise measurement. Measurements recorded shall be taken so as to provide a proper representation of the noise source. The microphone during measurement shall be positioned so as not to create any unnatural enhancement or diminution of the measured noise. A windscreen for the microphone shall be used when required. Traffic, aircraft and other transportation noise sources and other background noises shall not be considered in taking measurements except where such background noise interferes with the primary noise being measured.~~

~~(B) The slow meter response of the sound level meter shall be used in~~

~~order to best determine that the average amplitude has not exceeded the limiting noise spectra set forth in Table 1 below.~~

~~(C) The measurement shall be made at the property line of the property on which such noise is generated, or perceived, as appropriate, five feet above ground.~~

~~(D) In case of an elevated or directional sound or noise source, compliance with the noise limits is to be maintained at any elevation at the boundary.~~

~~(iii) The limits hereinabove referred to shall be in accordance with the following table:~~

~~TABLE I. LIMITING NOISE LEVELS FOR USE DISTRICTS~~

~~Octave band~~

~~Center frequency~~

<del>Cycles per second</del>	<del>Maximum permissible sound pressure (levels in decibels re 0.0002microbars)</del>

~~Use District~~

<del> </del>	<del>Residential</del>	<del>Commercial</del>	<del>Industrial</del>
<del>Below 75</del>	<del>65</del>	<del>79</del>	<del>80</del>
<del>75-150</del>	<del>60</del>	<del>74</del>	<del>75</del>
<del>150-300</del>	<del>55</del>	<del>66</del>	<del>70</del>
<del>300-600</del>	<del>55</del>	<del>59</del>	<del>64</del>
<del>600-1200</del>	<del>45</del>	<del>53</del>	<del>58</del>
<del>1200-2400</del>	<del>45</del>	<del>47</del>	<del>53</del>
<del>2300-4800</del>	<del>40</del>	<del>41</del>	<del>49</del>
<del>Above 4800</del>	<del>40</del>	<del>49</del>	<del>46</del>

~~(iv) If the noise is not smooth and continuous, one or more of the corrections in Table II below shall be added to or subtracted from each of the decibel levels given in Table I of subsection (iii) of this section.~~

~~TABLE II. TYPE OF OPERATION IN CHARACTER OF NOISE~~

~~{Correction in Decibels}~~

~~Noise source operated less than 20 percent of any one-hour period;  
plus five\*~~

~~Noise source operated less than five percent of any one-hour period;~~



~~plus ten\*~~

~~Noise source operated less than one percent of any one-hour period;  
plus 15\*~~

~~Noise of impulsive character (hammering, etc.); minus five.~~

~~Noise of periodic character (hum, screech, etc.); minus five.~~

~~\*Apply one of these corrections only.~~

~~(v) If the noise occurs between the hours of 10:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M. on Monday through Saturday or at any time on Sunday or holidays, seven shall be subtracted from each of the decibel levels given in Table I of subsection 3 of this section.~~

~~(c) *Enclosed places of public entertainment.*~~

~~(i) It shall be unlawful to sustain in any enclosed place of public entertainment including but not limited to a restaurant, bar, cafe, discotheque, dance hall, any amplitude equal to or in excess of 95 dB(A) sustained for more than 30 seconds.~~

~~(ii) Measurement of noise. Such sound or noise is to be measured by a sound level meter approved by the American Standards Association from any area to which the public is invited within any enclosed place of public entertainment.~~

~~(d) *Noises; aircraft.* It shall be unlawful for any person to operate or cause to be operated any type of aircraft over the city which produces noise levels exceeding 87dB(A) within the city.~~

p. (e) — *Noise from motor vehicle audio equipment.* No person shall use or operate any radio, tape player, record player, compact disc player or any similar device in or on a motor vehicle located on the public streets of the City, property owned or leased by the City, or within a public park, within a public parking lot or on any other public premise with the City, which is audible to a person of normal hearing sensitivity more than fifty (50) feet from such vehicle, nor shall any person use or operate any radio, tape player, record player, compact disc player or any similar device in or on a motor vehicle located on private property which is audible to a person of normal hearing sensitivity more than fifty (50) feet outside the real property boundary of said property. Words and phrases need not be discernible for said sound to be "audible."

#### **11-405. Exemptions.**

The following uses and activities shall be exempt from noise level regulations:

- (i)a. Noises of safety signals, warning devices, and emergency pressure relief valves.

~~(ii)~~b. Noises resulting from any authorized emergency vehicle, when responding to an emergency call or acting in time of emergency.

~~(iii)~~c. Noises resulting from emergency work as defined in ~~section 10-233(2)~~ ~~(16)~~ the Franklin Municipal Code, as amended.

~~(iv) Any other noise resulting from activities of a temporary duration permitted by law and for which a license or permit therefore has been granted by the city in accordance with section 10-233(2) (h).<sup>(38)</sup>~~

~~<sup>(38)</sup> Editor's note—These provisions were taken from Ord. No. 95-44, § I (Dec. 1995). These subsections were referenced in the original ordinance although they don't appear to exist.~~

~~(v)~~d. Any aircraft operated ~~in conformity~~inconformity with, or pursuant to, federal law, federal air regulations, and air traffic control instruction used pursuant to and within the duly adopted federal air regulations shall be exempt from the provisions of ~~11-402:chapter.~~ Any aircraft operating under technical difficulties, in any kind of distress, under emergency orders of air traffic control or being operated pursuant to and subsequent ~~to~~ the declaration of an emergency under the federal air regulations shall also be exempt from the provisions of ~~11-402~~this chapter.

~~(e)~~ Any vehicle or equipment of the City or a public utility while engaged in necessary public business.

~~(f)~~ Excavations or repairs of bridges, streets, or highways by or on behalf of the City, the county, or the state during the night, when the public welfare and convenience renders it impossible to perform such work during the day.

~~(g)~~ Emergency activities of the City, the county or the state and emergency activities of public utilities when they are seeking to provide electricity, water or other public utility services and the public health, safety or welfare is involved.

~~(h)~~ Use of domestic power equipment (including, but not limited to, power lawn mowers, leaf blowers, trimmers, snow blowers, tillers, saws, sanders, drills or similar devices) between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.

~~(i)~~ Attendant on-site noise and the playing of instruments connected with the actual performance or practice of organized sporting events or school events held on school campuses and in publicly owned parks or facilities.

~~(j)~~ Human sounds emanating from children including, but not limited to, speech and utterances of laughter, cries and, sounds associated with play.

~~(k)~~ Sounds lasting no more than five (5) minutes in any one (1) hour created by bells, chimes, carillons or by electronic or mechanical devices that reproduce such sounds, while used in connection with a religious institution, school, or clock or bell tower.

11-406. Application for ~~special permit.~~ Special Permit.

- (1) Applications for a special permit for relief from the noise level designated in this section on the basis of undue hardship may be made to the ~~board~~Board of ~~zoning appeals~~Mayor and Aldermen. Any permit granted by the ~~board~~Board of ~~zoning appeals~~Mayor and Aldermen ~~herein under~~ shall contain all conditions upon which said permit has been granted and shall specify a reasonable time that the permit shall be effective. The ~~board~~Board of ~~zoning appeals~~Mayor and Aldermen may grant the relief as applied for, if it finds:
- a. ~~(i)~~ — That additional time is necessary for the applicant to alter or modify his activity or operation to comply with this section; or
  - b. ~~(ii)~~ — The activity, operation or noise source will be of temporary duration, and cannot be done in a manner that would comply with other subsections of this section; and
  - c. ~~(iii)~~ — That no other reasonable alternative is available to the applicant; and
  - d. ~~(iv)~~ — The ~~board~~Board of ~~zoning appeals~~Mayor and Aldermen may prescribe any conditions ~~of requirements~~ it deems necessary to minimize adverse effects upon the community or the surrounding neighborhood.
- (2) Applications for ~~a permit for~~ relief from the noise level ~~designated~~ in this section for the purpose of a public parade, street fair or similar activity ~~sponsored~~ and conducted by a public entity, agency or committee thereof may be made to the ~~mayor~~Mayor or ~~city administrator~~City Administrator. The ~~mayor~~Mayor and ~~city administrator~~City Administrator are each authorized to issue ~~a special permit~~ for said purposes.

~~(4)~~ —

11-407. Penalty for ~~violation~~. Violation.

~~(a)~~ —

Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined ~~as specified in title 22, comprehensive fees and penalties.~~ the amount of fifty dollars (\$50.00). Each day such violation is committed or permitted to continue is a separate offense. ~~In the event the alleged violator cannot be located in order to serve the notice of intention to prosecute, the notice as required herein shall be deemed to be given upon mailing such notice by registered or certified mail to the alleged violator at the violator's last known address or at the place where the violation occurred.~~

~~(b) Any person violating any subsection of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be fined an amount as provided in paragraph (a), and the judge may require the guilty party to pay the reasonable rental expense of audio equipment and the reasonable expenses for payment to operate the audio equipment in order to detect and prove a violation and the reasonable time of the audio engineer(s) or trained operator(s).~~

~~(5) Manner of enforcement. Violations of this section shall be prosecuted in the same manner as other misdemeanor violations of the city's code; provided however, that in the event of violation of sections 10-233(2)(b) or (c) <sup>(30)</sup> of this chapter, a~~

~~written notice of intention to prosecute will be given the alleged violator not less than five calendar days and not more than 360 calendar days prior to the issuance of a misdemeanor citation or warrant. No citation or warrant shall be issued in the event the cause of the violation is removed, the condition abated or fully corrected within such five day period and not resumed before issuance of the citation or warrant. In the event the alleged violator cannot be located in order to serve the notice of intention to prosecute, the notice as required herein shall be deemed to be given upon mailing such notice by registered or certified mail to the alleged violator at his last known address or at the place where the violation occurred, in which event the five-day period shall commence at the date of the day following the mailing of such notice.~~

~~(6)~~

**11-408. Additional ~~remedy; injunction.~~ Remedy; Injunction.**

As an additional remedy, the operation or maintenance of any device, instrument, vehicle or machinery in violation of any provision hereof and which causes discomfort or annoyance to reasonable persons of normal sensitiveness or which endangers the comfort, repose, health or peace of residents in the area shall be deemed, and is ~~declared~~ to be, a public nuisance and may be subject to abatement summarily by a restraining order or injunction issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.

~~(7) Separability.~~

**11-409. Severability.**

It is the intention of the ~~city council~~ Board of Mayor and Aldermen that each separate provision of this section shall be deemed independent of all other provisions herein, and it is further the intention of the ~~board~~ Board of ~~mayor~~ Mayor and ~~aldermen~~ Aldermen that if any provisions thereof shall remain valid and enforceable.

~~(1976 Code, § 10-233; Ord. No. 95-44, 12- -1995; Ord. No. 98-77, 12- -1998; Ord. No. 2002-44, 12- -2002; Ord. No. 2003-44, 11- -2003; Ord. No. 2006-66A, 10- -2006; Ord. No. 2009-65, § I, 12-8-2009)~~