

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE III, OFFENSES, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GLADSTONE, MISSOURI TO AMEND CHAPTER 130 OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC PEACE AND SAFETY.**

**WHEREAS**, The Code of Ordinances of the City of Gladstone, Missouri (the “City Code”) includes provisions in Title III addressing offenses concerning public peace and safety within the City of Gladstone, Missouri (the “City”); and

**WHEREAS**, the City staff have prepared revisions to amend Title III of the City Code to revise Chapter 130 to address current concerns regarding a lack of explicit language regulating overnight stays, tent/camping structures, and the use of park facilities for temporary habitation.

**WHEREAS**, the City Council desires to approve the proposed amendments to Title III of the City Code as set forth in this ordinance.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GLADSTONE, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1:** That Title III, Offenses, Chapter 130 Offenses Against Public Peace and Safety of the City Code is hereby amended by enacting a new Section 1.130.135 entitled “Camping Within City Limits”, which shall read as follows:

**Sec. 1.130.135. – Camping Within City Limits.**

- (a) It Shall be unlawful for any person to camp in the following areas except as provided in Subsection (b):
  - (1) Any park or trail; or
  - (2) Any street or alley; or
  - (3) Any public property, improved or unimproved.
- (b) No tent, camper, or other recreational structure shall be used as a temporary or permanent residence or shelter on any real property within the City.
- (c) The City Manager, or their designee, is authorized to permit persons to camp, occupy camp facilities, or use camp paraphernalia in any City park or on public property in accordance with the following:
  - (1) Upon receipt of an application for any permit under this Section, the City Manager or their designee, shall inquire with the relevant City departments to identify any risks or other problems which the proposed activity is reasonably expected to pose for the public at that location;
  - (2) The City Manager or their designee may approve a permit with or without conditions when, from a consideration of the application, reports of relevant City departments, and from such other information as may otherwise be obtained, it is found that:
    - a. Adequate sanitary facilities are provided and accessible at or near the proposed camp site; and

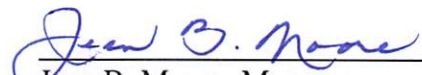
**BILL NO. 26-15**

**ORDINANCE NO. 4.732**

- b. Adequate trash receptacles and trash collection are provided or will be provided; and
  - c. The camping activity will not unreasonably disturb or interfere with the safety, peace, comfort and repose of private property owners or the general public.
- (3) No permit shall be issued for a period of time in excess of three (3) consecutive calendar days, or fifteen (15) calendar days in any one (1) calendar year.
- (4) The City Manager or their designee is authorized to deny or revoke an already issued permit if they find lack of compliance with any requirement of this Section, or of any permit condition, or of any ordinance or statute.
- (d) Any violation of this Section shall be punishable under Section 1.100.140 of this Code.
- (e) Definitions. As used in this Section, the following definitions shall apply:
- (1) Camp: To pitch, use, or occupy camp facilities for the purpose of habitation, as evidenced by the use of camp paraphernalia.
  - (2) Camp Facilities: Including but not limited to – tents, huts, or temporary shelters. “Camp facilities” does not include tents, huts, or temporary shelters when used temporarily in a City park for recreation or play during daylight hours when the park is open to the public.
  - (3) Camp Paraphernalia: Including, but not limited to – tarpaulins, cots, beds, sleeping bags, blankets, mattresses, hammocks, or cooking facilities or equipment.

**SECTION 2:** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval as provided by law.

**INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED, AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GLADSTONE, MISSOURI, THIS 11TH DAY OF MAY 2026.**

  
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Jean B. Moore, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Kris Keller, City Clerk

First Reading: May 11, 2026

Second Reading: May 11, 2026



## ***Request for Council Action***

RES # City Clerk Only

BILL # 26-15

ORD # 4.732

Date: 5/6/2026

Department: General Administration

Meeting Date Requested: 5/11/2026

Public Hearing: Yes  Date: [Click here to enter a date.](#)

**Subject:** An Ordinance authorizing an amendment to Title III of the Gladstone City Code.

**Background:** Currently, our City Code does not explicitly address or restrict camping within City Parks outside of designated areas or camping on real property within the City generally. During the City Council Goal Setting session this past November, this issue was discussed and concerns were raised that the absence of specific language regarding overnight stays, tent structures, and the use of park facilities for temporary habitation may present enforcement challenges during major regional events, in particular, the 2026 FIFA World Cup. In order to address this issue, staff is proposing an amendment to Title III of the City Code that will create a new category of Offense for unauthorized camping within city limits. The proposed amendment will allow the City to have clear regulations regarding camping and temporary occupancy of public parks and spaces and aid enforcement before the World Cup begins.

**Budget Discussion:** N/A

**Public/Board/Staff Input:** Staff recommends approval of the proposed Ordinance.

**Provide Original Contracts, Leases, Agreements, etc. to:** City Clerk and Vendor.

Bob Baer  
Department Director/Administrator

JA  
City Attorney

BB  
City Manager