

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-1177

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A TAX ON THE SALE OF RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA AND MARIJUANA-INFUSED PRODUCTS IN THE CITY OF REEDSPORT

WHEREAS, Reedsport is an Oregon home-rule municipal corporation having the authority and power under the terms of its Charter to exercise all the powers and authority that the constitution, statutes, and common law of the United States and this State expressly or impliedly grant or allow as fully as though each such powers were specifically enumerated therein; and

WHEREAS, except as otherwise provided, all powers of the City are vested in the Council; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to exercise that power to tax the sale or transfer of recreational marijuana and marijuana-infused products and extracts within the City; and

WHEREAS, the Reedsport City Charter Section 45 requires voter ratification of all City taxes, and the City Council intends this Ordinance to be effective upon passage by the Council subject to and upon the date of said ratification.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF REEDSPORT ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Reedsport Municipal Code is amended by adding a new Chapter 7.12 Marijuana Tax, to read as follows:

Chapter 7.12

MARIJUANA TAX

- 7.12.010 Purpose**
- 7.12.020 Definitions**
- 7.12.030 Tax Imposed**
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7.12.010 Purpose

For the purposes of this Chapter, every person who sells recreational marijuana or marijuana-infused products in the City of Reedsport is exercising a taxable privilege. The purpose of this Chapter is to impose a tax upon the retail or wholesale sales of marijuana and marijuana-infused products and extracts.

7.12.020 Definitions

As used in this Ordinance, unless the context requires otherwise:

1. "Director" means the Director of Finance for the City of Reedsport or his/her designee.
2. "Gross Sales" means the total amount received in money, credits, property or other consideration from sales of marijuana and marijuana-infused products and extracts that is subject to the tax imposed by this chapter.
3. "Marijuana" means all parts of the plant of the Cannabis family Moraceae, whether growing or not; the resin extracted from any part of the plant; and every compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the plant or its resin, as may be defined by Oregon Revised Statutes as they currently exist or may from time to time be amended. It does not include the mature stalks of the plant, fiber produced from the stalks, oil or cake made from the seeds of the plant, any other compound, manufacture, salt, derivative, mixture, or preparation of the mature stalks (except the resin extracted there from), fiber, oil, or cake, or the sterilized seed of the plant which is incapable of germination.
4. "Oregon Medical Marijuana Program" means the office within the Oregon Health Authority that administers the provisions of ORS 475B.400 through 475B.405, the Oregon Medical Marijuana Act, and all policies and procedures pertaining thereto.
5. "Person" means natural person, joint venture, joint stock company, partnership, association, club, company, corporation, business, trust, organization, or any group or combination acting as a unit, including the United States of America, the State of Oregon and any political subdivision thereof, or the manager, lessee, agent, servant, officer or employee of any of them.
6. "Purchase" means the acquisition by any person of recreational marijuana or marijuana-infused product and extracts within the City.
7. "Registry identification cardholder" means a person who has been diagnosed by an attending physician with a debilitating medical condition and for whom the use of medical marijuana may mitigate the symptoms or effects of the

person's debilitating medical condition, and who has been issued a registry identification card by the Oregon Health Authority.

8. "Sale" means the transfer of goods or services in exchange for any valuable consideration.
9. "Seller" means any person who transfers recreational marijuana or marijuana-infused products and extracts to purchasers for money, credit, property or other consideration.
10. "Tax" means either the tax payable by the seller or the aggregate amount of taxes due from a seller during the period for which the seller is required to report collections under this Chapter.
11. "Taxpayer" means any person obligated to account to the Director of Finance for taxes collected or to be collected, or from whom a tax is due, under the terms of this Chapter.

7.12.030 Tax Imposed

A tax is hereby levied and shall be paid by every seller exercising the taxable privilege of selling recreational marijuana and marijuana-infused products and extracts as defined in this Chapter. The Director is authorized to exercise all supervisory and administrative powers with regard to the enforcement, collection, and administration of the recreational marijuana tax.

7.12.040 Amount and Payment, Deductions

1. In addition to any fees or taxes otherwise provided for by law, every seller engaged in the sale of recreational marijuana and marijuana-infused products and extracts within the City shall pay a tax as follows:
 - a. Three percent (3%) of the gross sale amount paid to the seller of recreational marijuana and marijuana-infused products and extracts by individuals who are not registry identification cardholders purchasing marijuana under the Oregon Medical Marijuana Program.
2. The following deductions shall be allowed against sales received by the seller providing recreational marijuana or marijuana-infused products and extracts:
 - a. Refunds of sales actually returned to any purchaser;
 - b. Any adjustments in sales which amount to a refund to a purchaser, providing such adjustment pertains to the actual sale of recreational marijuana or marijuana-infused products and extracts and does not include any adjustments for other services furnished by a seller.

7.12.050 Seller Responsible for Payment of Tax

1. Every seller shall obtain a business license from the City of Reedsport pursuant to Reedsport Municipal Code Chapter 7.04. The seller will indicate on the business license application whether the seller will provide recreational marijuana or marijuana-infused products and extracts to purchasers for money, credit, property or other consideration.
2. Every seller shall, on or before the last day of the month following the end of each calendar quarter (in the months of April, July, October and January) make a return to the Director, on forms provided by the City, specifying the total sales subject to this Chapter and the amount of tax collected under this Chapter. The seller may request or the City may establish shorter reporting periods for any seller if the seller or City deems it necessary in order to ensure collection of the tax and the City may require further information in the return relevant to payment of the tax. A return shall not be considered filed until it is actually received by the Director.
3. At the time the return is filed, the full amount of the tax owed shall be remitted to the City.
4. Payments shall be applied in the order of the oldest liability first, with the payment credited first toward any accrued penalty, then to interest, then to the underlying tax until the payment is exhausted. Crediting of a payment toward a specific reporting period will be first applied against any accrued penalty, then to interest, then to the underlying tax. If the Director, in his or her sole discretion, determines that an alternative order of payment application would be in the best interest of the City in a particular tax or factual situation, the Director may order such a change. The Director may establish shorter reporting periods for any seller if the Director deems it necessary in order to ensure collection of the tax. The Director also may require additional information in the return relevant to payment of the liability. When a shorter return period is required, penalties and interest shall be computed according to the shorter return period. Returns and payments are due immediately upon cessation of business for any reason. All taxes collected by sellers pursuant to this Chapter shall be held in trust for the account of the City until payment is made to the City. A separate trust bank account is not required in order to comply with this provision.
5. Every seller required to remit the tax imposed in this Chapter shall be entitled to retain five percent (5%) of all taxes due the City to defray the costs of bookkeeping and remittance.
6. Every seller must keep and preserve, in an accounting format established by the Director, records of all sales made by the dispensary and such other books or accounts as may be required by the Director for a period of three (3) years or until all taxes associated with the sales have been paid, whichever is longer. The City shall have the right to inspect and copy all such records at all reasonable times.

7.12.060 Penalties and Interest

1. Any seller who fails to remit any portion of any tax imposed by this Chapter within the time required shall pay a penalty of ten percent (10%) of the amount of the tax, in addition to the amount of the tax.
2. If the City determines that the nonpayment of any remittance due under this Chapter is due to fraud, a penalty of twenty-five percent (25%) of the amount of the tax shall be added thereto in addition to the penalties stated in subparagraph 1 of this section.
3. In addition to the penalties imposed, any seller who fails to remit any tax imposed by this Chapter shall pay interest at the rate of one percent (1%) per month or fraction thereof on the amount of the tax, exclusive of penalties, from the date on which the remittance first became delinquent until paid.
4. Every penalty imposed, and such interest as accrues under the provisions of this section, shall become a part of the tax required to be paid.
5. All sums collected pursuant to the penalty provisions in this section shall be distributed to the City of Reedsport General Fund to offset the costs of auditing and enforcement of this tax.

7.12.070 Failure to Report and Remit Tax – Determination of Tax by Director

If any seller should fail to make, within the time provided in this Chapter, any report of the tax required by this Chapter, the Director shall proceed in such manner as deemed best to obtain facts and information on which to base the estimate of tax due. As soon as the Director shall procure such facts and information as is able to be obtained, upon which to base the assessment of any tax imposed by this Chapter and payable by any seller, the Director shall proceed to determine and assess against such seller the tax, interest and penalties provided for by this Chapter. In case such determination is made, the Director shall give a notice of the amount so assessed by having it served personally or by depositing it in the United States mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the seller so assessed at the seller's last known place of address. Such seller may make an appeal of such determination as provided in section 7.12.080. If no appeal is timely filed, the Director's determination is final and the amount thereby is immediately due and payable.

7.12.080 Appeal

Any seller aggrieved by any decision of the Director with respect to the amount of such tax, interest and penalties, if any, may, within 30 (thirty) days following the date of the Director's decision, appeal a decision of the Director to the City Manager. The City Manager shall hear and consider any records and evidence presented bearing upon the Director's determination of amount due, and make findings affirming, reversing or modifying the determination. The findings of the City Manager shall be final and conclusive. Any amount found to be due shall be immediately due and payable upon the

service of notice to the last known address of the seller.

7.12.090 Refunds

1. Whenever the amount of any tax, interest or penalty has been overpaid or paid more than once, or has been erroneously collected or received by the City under this Chapter, it may be refunded as provided in subparagraph 2 of this section, provided a claim in writing, stating under penalty of perjury the specific grounds upon which the claim is founded, is filed with the Director within one year of the date of payment. The claim shall be on forms furnished by the City.
2. The Director shall have twenty (20) calendar days from the date of receipt of a claim to review the claim and make a determination in writing as to the validity of the claim. The Director shall notify the claimant in writing of the Director's determination. Such notice shall be mailed to the address provided by claimant on the claim form. In the event a claim is determined by the Director to be a valid claim, in a manner prescribed by the Director a seller may claim a refund, or take as credit against taxes collected and remitted, the amount overpaid, paid more than once or erroneously collected or received. The seller shall notify Director of claimant's choice no later than fifteen (15) days following the date Director mailed the determination. In the event claimant has not notified the Director of claimant's choice within the fifteen (15) day period and the seller is still in business, a credit will be granted against the tax liability for the next reporting period. If the seller is no longer in business, a refund check will be mailed to claimant at the address provided in the claim form.
3. Any credit for erroneous overpayment of tax made by a seller taken on a subsequent return or any claim for refund of tax erroneously overpaid filed by a seller must be so taken or filed within three (3) years after the date on which the overpayment was made to the City.
4. No refund shall be paid under the provisions of this section unless the claimant established the right by written records showing entitlement to such refund and the Director acknowledged the validity of the claim.

7.12.100 Actions to Collect

Any tax required to be paid by any seller under the provisions of this Chapter shall be deemed a debt owed by the seller to the City. Any such tax collected by a seller which has not been paid to the City shall be deemed a debt owed by the seller to the City. Any person owing money to the City under the provisions of this Chapter shall be subject to an action brought in the name of the City of Reedsport for the recovery of such amount. In lieu of filing an action for the recovery, the City of Reedsport, when taxes due are more than 30 (thirty) days delinquent, can submit any outstanding tax to a collection agency. So long as the City of Reedsport has complied with the provisions set forth in ORS 697.105, in the event the City turns over a delinquent tax account to a collection agency, it may add to the amount owing an amount equal to the collection agency fees, not to

exceed the greater of fifty dollars (\$50.00) or fifty percent (50%) of the outstanding tax, penalties and interest owing.

7.12.110 Violation

1. Violation of this Chapter shall constitute a civil infraction and upon proof thereof by a trial or stipulation signed by that person before the Municipal Judge in the Municipal Court of the City, said violator shall pay to the City a sum not to exceed \$250 (two hundred and fifty dollars). Each day that a person conducts any activity in violation of the provision of this Chapter shall be deemed a separate infraction and shall be required to pay a separate sum accordingly. It is a violation of this Chapter for any seller or other person to:
 - a. Fail or refuse to comply as required herein;
 - b. Fail or refuse to furnish any return required to be made;
 - c. Fail or refuse to permit inspection and copying of records;
 - d. Fail or refuse to furnish a supplemental return or other data required by the City;
 - e. Render a false or fraudulent return or claim; or
 - f. Fail, refuse or neglect to remit the tax to the City by the due date.
2. Filing a false or fraudulent return shall be considered a Class B misdemeanor. The remedies provided by this section are not exclusive and shall not prevent the City from exercising any other remedy available under the law, nor shall the provisions of this Ordinance prohibit or restrict the City or other appropriate prosecutor from pursuing criminal charges under state law or City ordinance.

7.12.120 Confidentiality

Except as otherwise required by law, it shall be unlawful for the City, any officer, employee or agent to divulge, release or make known in any manner any financial information submitted or disclosed to the City under the terms of this Chapter. Nothing in this section shall prohibit:

1. The disclosure of the names and addresses of any person who is operating a licensed establishment from which marijuana or marijuana-infused products are sold or provided; or
2. The disclosure of general statistics in a form which would not reveal an individual seller's financial information; or
3. Presentation of evidence to the court, or other tribunal having jurisdiction in the prosecution of any criminal or civil claim by the City or an appeal from the City

for amount due the City under this chapter; or

4. The disclosure of information when such disclosure of conditionally exempt information is ordered under public records law procedures; or
5. The disclosure of records related to a business' failure to report and remit the tax when the report or tax is in arrears for over six (6) months or the tax exceeds five thousand dollars (\$5,000). The City Council expressly finds and determines that the public interest in disclosure of such records clearly outweighs the interest in confidentiality under ORS 192.345 (5).

7.12.130 Audit of Books, Records, or Persons

1. The City, for the purpose of determining the correctness of any tax return, or for the purpose of an estimate of taxes due, may examine or may cause to be examined by an agent or representative designated by the City for that purpose, any books, papers, records, or memoranda, including copies of seller's state and federal income tax returns, bearing upon the matter of the seller's tax return. All books, invoices, accounts and other records shall be made available within the City limits and be open at any time during regular business hours for examination by the Director or an authorized agent of the Director.
2. If the examinations or investigations disclose that any reports of sellers filed with the Director pursuant to the requirements herein have shown incorrectly the amount of tax accruing, the Director may make such changes in subsequent reports and payments, or make such refunds, as may be necessary to correct the errors disclosed by its examinations or investigations.
3. The seller shall reimburse the City for reasonable costs of the examination or investigation if the action disclosed that the seller paid 95 percent or less of the tax owing for the period of the examination or investigation. In the event that such examination or investigation results in an assessment by and an additional payment due to the City, such additional payment shall be subject to interest at the rate of 1 percent per month, or the portion thereof, from the date the original tax payment was due.
4. If any taxpayer refuses to voluntarily furnish any of the foregoing information when requested, the City may immediately seek a subpoena from the Reedsport Municipal Court to require that the taxpayer or a representative of the taxpayer attend a hearing or produce any such books, accounts and records for examination.
5. Every seller shall keep a record in such form as may be prescribed by the City of all sales of recreational marijuana and marijuana-infused products and extracts. The records shall at all times during the business hours of the day be subject to inspection by the City or authorized officers or agents of the Director.
6. Every seller shall maintain and keep, for a period of three (3) years, or until all taxes

associated with the sales have been paid, whichever is longer, all records of recreational marijuana and marijuana-infused products and extracts sold.

7.12.140 Forms and Regulations

The Director is hereby authorized to prescribe forms and promulgate rules and regulations to aid in the making of returns, the ascertainment, assessment and collection of said recreational marijuana tax and in particular and without limiting the general language of this Chapter, to provide for:

1. A form of report on sales and purchases to be supplied to all vendors;
2. The records which sellers providing recreational marijuana and marijuana-infused products and extracts are to keep concerning the tax imposed by this Chapter.

SECTION 2. Severability. The sections, subsections, paragraphs and clauses of this Ordinance are severable. The invalidity of one section, subsection, paragraph, or clause shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, subsections, paragraphs and clauses.

SECTION 3. Savings. Notwithstanding any amendment/repeal, the City Ordinances in existence at the time any criminal or civil enforcement actions were commenced shall remain valid and in full force and effect for purposes of all cases filed or commenced during the times said Ordinance(s) or portions thereof were operative. This section simply clarifies the existing situation that nothing in this Ordinance affects the validity of prosecutions commenced and continued under the laws in effect at the time the matters were originally filed.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall be effective 30 days after its passage by Council, signature by the Mayor and posting by the City Recorder; and ratification by those eligible to vote in a City election

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this 6th day of July, 2020.

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APPROVED BY THE MAYOR this 6th day of July, 2020.


Linda McCollum, Mayor

ATTEST:


Deanna Schafer, City Recorder

