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IN THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

AN ORDINANCE amending the Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, by adding a new Section 24-2.1 Prohibition of Firearms on City Property to Chapter 24 Public Buildings and Property Generally; establishing an effective date; and dispensing with the second reading of this ordinance by title.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 15.2-915, Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, localities may adopt an ordinance prohibiting firearms on City property.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Roanoke that:

1. The Code of the City of Roanoke (1979), as amended, is amended by adding a new Section 24-2.1 Prohibition of Firearms on City Property to Chapter 24 Public Buildings and Property Generally, as follows:

* * *

Section 24-2.1 Prohibition of Firearms on City Property.

(1) The possession, carrying or transportation of firearms, ammunition or components or combinations thereof is prohibited (a) in any buildings, or part thereof, owned or used, by the City, or by any authority or local governmental entity created or controlled by the City, for governmental purposes; or (b) in parks owned or operated by the City, or by any authority or local governmental entity created or controlled by the City; and (c) in any recreational or community center facility operated by the City, or by any authority or local governmental entity created or controlled by the City and (d) in 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 by or is adjacent to a permitted event or an event that would otherwise require a permit.

(2) The possession, carrying, storage or transportation of firearms by City employees, agents or volunteers in workplaces owned, operated or managed by the City is prohibited unless expressly authorized by the City Manager in writing for a specific purpose.

(3) Pursuant to this Section, the City may implement security measures that are designed to reasonably prevent the unauthorized access of such buildings, parks,

recreation or community center facilities, by a person with any firearms, ammunition or components or combination thereof, such as the use of metal detectors and increased use of security personnel.

(4) This section shall not apply to (a) military personnel when acting within the scope of their official duties, (b) sworn law enforcement officers, (c) private security personnel hired by the City, when any of them are present in buildings owned, leased or operated by the City or in parks and in any recreational or community facility that is owned or used by the City; (d) museums displaying firearms and the personnel and volunteers of museums, participants in parades that have been issued a permit through the City, or living history re-enactors, performers, actors and/or interpreters, who possess firearms that are not loaded with projectiles, when such persons are participating in, or traveling to or from, historical interpretive events, parades or are acting in any play, stage show or performance that involves the display or demonstration of such firearms as a part of such play, stage show or presentation; and (e) 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 in (e) above shall follow strict guidelines developed by such institutions for these activities and shall be conducted under the supervision of staff officials or such institutions.

(5) Notice of the restrictions imposed by this ordinance shall be posted (i) at all entrances of any building, or part thereof, owned or used by the City, or by any authority or local governmental entity created or controlled by the City, for governmental purposes; (ii) at all entrances of any public park owned or operated by the City, or by any authority or local governmental entity created or controlled by the City; (iii) at all entrances of any recreation or community center facilities operated by the City, or by any authority or local governmental entity created or controlled by the City.

(6) Any persons violating this code section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor.

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2. This Ordinance shall become effective upon passage.

3. Pursuant to Section 12 of the Charter of the City of Roanoke, the second reading of

this ordinance by title is hereby dispensed with.

ATTEST:

City Clerk.