

## AN ORDINANCE PERMITTING AND PROVIDING FOR THE POSTING OF SIGNS TO PROHIBIT THE CARRYING OF CONCEALED WEAPONS ON CERTAIN TOWN PROPERTY

**WHEREAS,** N.C.G.S. 14-415.23 authorizes towns to adopt ordinances to permit the posting of a prohibition against carrying a weapon, in accordance with N.C.G.S. 14-415.11(c), on Town buildings, their appurtenant premises, and parks; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of this ordinance to permit the posting of Town property such that, pursuant to N.C.G.S. 14-415.11(c), the carrying of weapons on the posted premises will constitute a violation of N.C.G.S. Chapter 14, Article 54B.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Town Council of the Town of Rural Hall, that:

Section 1. Weapons on Town Property Prohibited. No person shall possess or carry in or on any Town building and its appurtenant premises (which buildings, portions of buildings, and appurtenant premises include those owned by the Town, leased as lessee by the Town or operated, occupied, managed or controlled by the Town), or in any Town recreational facility, whether openly or concealed, any weapons as subject to the provisions of N.C.G.S. 14-269(a), N.C.G.S. 14-415.10, or N.C.G.S. 14-415.11(c) or N.C.G.S. 14-409.39. For the purposes of this ordinance, Covington Memorial Park is a recreational facility. The term "recreational facility" does not include any greenway, designated biking or walking path, an area which is customarily used as a walkway or bike path although not specifically designated for such use, open fields where athletic events may occur unless the area qualifies as an "athletic field" pursuant to subdivision 1 of subsection (c) of N.C.G.S. 14-415.23, and any other area that is not specifically described in section (c) of said subsection.

## Section 2. Exemptions. This Ordinance shall not:

- a. Apply to those individuals exempted under N.C.G.S. 14-269(b);
- Apply to duly sworn, or currently employed and salaried, officials of the Town of Rural Hall who have a valid concealed carry permit and have provided copy of such to the Town Manager;
- c. Prohibit a person from securing a handgun in a locked vehicle within the trunk, glove box, or other enclosed compartment or area within or on the motor vehicle while the vehicle is on the grounds or in the areas above set forth by Section 1; or

d. Prohibit the carry of an "ordinary pocketknife" as described in N.C.G.S. 14-269(d).

Section 3. Posting of Signs Required. The Town Manager is hereby ordered to post appropriate signage in or on each recreational facility, building, or portion of a building now or hereafter owned, leased as lessee, operated, occupied, managed, or controlled by the Town of Rural Hall, as well as the appurtenant premises to such buildings, indicating that weapons are prohibited therein.

Section 4. <u>Location of Signs.</u> Said signs shall be visibly posted on the exterior of each entrance by which the general public can access the building, appurtenant premise, or recreational facility. The Town Manager shall exercise discretion in determining the necessity, number, size and appropriate location for other signs posted on the interior of the building, appurtenant premise, or recreational facility.

Section 5. Severability; Conflict of Laws. If this Ordinance or application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the Ordinance which can be given separate effect and to that end the provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 6. <u>Violations.</u> Any person who possesses or carries a weapon on Town property where prohibited shall be punished as provided by State Law.

Section 7. Effective Date. Adopted this the 13th day of April 2020.

TOWN OF RURAL HALL

Timothy M. Flinchum, Mayor

ATTEST:

Dora K. Moore, Town Clerk