

**TOWN OF SWEET WATER**  
**BUSINESS LICENSE**  
**ORDINANCE NO. 2007-001**

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE A LICENSE SCHEDULE FOR THE YEAR 2008 AND SUBSEQUENT YEARS FOR BUSINESSES ENGAGED IN OR CARRIED ON IN THE TOWN OF SWEET WATER, ALABAMA, AND IT'S POLICE JURISDICTION; AND FURTHER REPEALING ALL PREVIOUS ORDINANCES

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Sweet Water, Alabama, as follows:

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## **SECTION 1. Levy of Tax.**

(a) Pursuant to the *Code of Alabama*, the following is hereby declared to be and is adopted as the business license code and schedule of license fees for the municipality for the year beginning January 1, 2008, and for each subsequent year thereafter. There is hereby levied and assessed a business license fee for the privilege of doing any kind of business, trade, profession, or other activity in the municipality, or the police jurisdiction, by whatever name called.

## **SECTION 2. Definitions of terms.**

Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the following meaning as set forth below:

[1] **BUSINESS.** Any commercial or industrial activity or any enterprise, trade, profession, occupation, or livelihood, including the lease or rental of residential or nonresidential real estate, whether or not carried on for gain or profit, and whether or not engaged in as a principal or as an independent contractor, which is engaged in or caused to be engaged in within the municipality.

[2] **BUSINESS LICENSE.** An annual license issued by the municipality for the privilege of doing any kind of business, trade, profession or other activity in the municipality, by whatever name called, which document is required to be conspicuously posted or displayed, except to the extent the taxpayer's business license tax or other financial information is listed thereon.

[3] **BUSINESS LICENSE REMITTANCE FORM.** Any business license return, renewal reminder notice, or other writing on which the taxpayer calculates the business license tax liability for all or part of the license year and remits the amount so calculated with the form.

[4] **DEPARTMENT or DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE.** The Alabama Department of Revenue, as created under Section 40-2-1, et seq.

[5] **DESIGNEE.** An agent or employee of the municipality authorized to administer or collect, or both, the municipality's business license taxes, which may include another taxing jurisdiction, the Department of Revenue, or a "private auditing or collecting firm" as defined in Section 40-2A-3 of the *Code of Alabama*.

[6] **GROSS RECEIPTS.** The measure of any and all receipts of a business from whatever source derived, to the maximum extent permitted by applicable laws and constitutional provisions, to be used in calculating the amount due for a business license. Provided, however, that:

(a) Gross receipts shall not include any of the following taxes collected by the business on behalf of any taxing jurisdiction or the federal government: All taxes which are imposed on the ultimate consumer, collected by the taxpayer and remitted by or on behalf of the taxpayer to the taxing authority, whether state, local or federal, including utility gross receipts levied pursuant to Article 3, Chapter 21, Title 40; license taxes levied pursuant to Article 2, Chapter 21, Title 40; or reimbursements to professional employer organizations of federal, state or local payroll taxes or unemployment insurance contributions; but no other deductions or exclusions from gross receipts shall be allowed except as provided in this article.

(b) A different basis for calculating the business license may be used by the municipality with respect to certain categories of taxpayers as prescribed in Section 11-51-90B.

(c) For a utility or other entity described in Section 11-51-129, gross receipts shall be limited to the gross receipts derived from the retail furnishing of utility services within the municipality

during the preceding year that are taxed under Article 3 of Chapter 21 of Title 40, except that nothing herein shall affect any existing contract or agreement between a municipality and a utility or other entity. The gross receipts derived from the furnishing of utility services shall not be subject to further business license taxation by the municipality.

(d) Gross receipts shall not include dividends or other distributions received by a corporation, or proceeds from borrowing, the sale of a capital asset, and the repayment of the principal portion of a loan, the issuance of stock or other equity investments, or capital contributions, or the undistributed earnings of subsidiary entities.

[7] LICENSE FORM. Any business license application form, renewal reminder notice, business license remittance form, or business license return by whatever name called.

[8] LICENSE OFFICER or MUNICIPAL LICENSE OFFICER. The municipal employee charged by the municipality with the primary responsibility of administering the municipality's business license tax ordinance and related matters thereto.

[9] LICENSE YEAR. The calendar year.

[10] MUNICIPALITY. Any town or city in this state that levies a business license tax from time-to-time. The term shall also include the town's or city's police jurisdiction, where the business license tax is levied in the police jurisdiction.

[11] PERSON. Any individual, association, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company, corporation, or other entity of any kind, except for any nonprofit corporation formed under the laws of Alabama which is operated to enable municipalities that become members of such nonprofit corporation to finance or refinance capital projects and related undertakings, on a cooperative basis, and whose board of directors or other governing body consists primarily of elected officials of the municipality.

[12] TAXING JURISDICTION. Any municipality that levies a business license tax, whether or not a business license tax is levied within its police jurisdiction, or the Department of Revenue acting as agent on behalf of a municipality pursuant to Section 11-51-180, et seq., as the context requires.

[13] TAXPAYER. Any person subject to or liable under this chapter for any business license tax; any person required to file a return with respect to, or pay or remit the business license tax levied under this chapter or to report any information or value to the taxing jurisdiction; or any person required to obtain, or who holds any interest in, any business license issued by the taxing jurisdiction; or any person that may be affected by any act or refusal to act by the taxing jurisdiction under this chapter, or to keep any required by this chapter.

[14] U.S.C. The applicable title and section of the United States Code, as amended from time-to-time.

[15] OTHER TERMS. Other capitalized or specialized terms used in this ordinance, and not defined above, shall have the same meanings ascribed to them in Section 40-2A-3, of the *Alabama Code*, unless the context therein otherwise specifies.

### **SECTION 3. License term; minimums.**

The license term and the minimum amount for a business license are as follows:

(a) *Full Year.* Every person who commences business before the first day of July shall be subject to and shall pay the annual license for such business in full. Unless otherwise specified in the enclosed schedules, the minimum annual license shall be \$ 50.00.

(b) *Half Year.* Every person who commences business on or after July 1<sup>st</sup>, shall be subject to and shall pay one-half (1/2) the annual license for such business for that calendar year.

(c) *Issue Fee.* For each license issued there shall be an issue fee collected of ten dollars (\$10.00) and said issue fee shall be collected in the same manner as the license tax.

(d) *Annual Renewal.* Except as provided in subsections (i) or (ii), the business license shall be renewed on or before the 31<sup>st</sup> day of January each year.

(i) If the due date for payment of any business license falls on a weekend or a holiday recognized by the municipality from time to time, the due date shall automatically be extended until the next business day.

(ii) Insurance company annual license renewals shall be renewed in accordance with Section 11-51-122 of the *Code of Alabama* which states that each year, each insurance company shall furnish the municipality a statement in writing duly certified showing the full and true amount of gross premiums received during the preceding year and shall accompany such statement with the amount of license tax due according to the licensing schedule. Failure to furnish such statement or to pay such sum shall subject the company and its agents to those penalties as prescribed for doing business without a license as provided for in the municipal code.

(iii) On or before December 31 of each year, a renewal reminder shall be mailed to each licensee that purchased a business license during the current year. Said renewal notice shall be mailed via regular U.S. mail to the licensee's last known address of record with the municipality. Licensees are required to furnish the municipality any address changes for their business prior to December 1<sup>st</sup> in order for them to receive their notice.

(iv) Business license renewal payments received by the municipality shall be applied to the current renewal only when any and other debts the licensee owes to the municipality are first paid in full. No business license shall be issued if the current renewal payment does not meet said prior obligations and the current renewal. Failure to pay such sums shall subject the licensee and its agents to those penalties as prescribed for doing business without a license provided for in the municipal code.

### **SECTION 4. License shall be location specific.**

(a) For each place at which any business is carried on, a separate license shall be paid, and any person desiring to engage in any business for which a license is required shall designate the place at which business is carried on, and the license to be issued shall designate such place, and such license shall authorize the carrying on of such business only at the place designated.

(b) A taxpayer subject to the license authorized by this ordinance that is engaged in business in other municipalities, may account for its gross receipts so that the part of its gross receipts attributable to its branch offices will not be subject to the business license imposed by this ordinance. To establish a *bona fide* branch office, the taxpayer must demonstrate proof of all following criteria:

(i) The taxpayer must demonstrate the continuing existence of an actual facility located outside the police jurisdiction in which its principal business office is located, such as a retail store, outlet, business office, showroom, or warehouse, to which employees and/or independent contractors are assigned or located during regular normal working hours.

(ii) The taxpayer must maintain books and records, which reasonably indicate a segregation or allocation of the taxpayer's gross receipts to the particular facility of facilities.

(iii) The taxpayer must provide proof that separate telephone listings, signs, and other indications of its separate activity are in existence.

(iv) Billing and/or collection activities relating to the business conducted at the branch office or offices are performed by an employee or other representative, of the taxpayer who has such responsibility for the branch office.

(v) All business claimed by a branch office or offices must be conducted by and through said office or offices.

(vi) The taxpayer must supply proof that all applicable business licenses with respect to the branch office or offices have been issued.

(c) Nothing herein shall be construed as exempting businesses from payment of a license on the basis of a lack of physical location.

#### **SECTION 5. Restriction on transfer of license.**

No license shall be transferred except with the consent of the council or other governing body of the municipality or of the director of finance or other chief revenue officer or his or her designee, and no license shall be transferred to reflect a physical change of address of the taxpayer within the municipality more than once during a license year and never from one taxpayer to another taxpayer. Provided that a mere change in the name or ownership of a taxpayer that is a corporation, partnership, limited liability company or other form of legal entity now or hereafter recognized by the laws of Alabama shall not constitute a transfer for the purposes of this chapter, unless (1) the change requires the taxpayer to obtain a new federal employer identification number or Department of Revenue taxpayer identification number or (2) in the discretion of the municipality, the subject license is one for the sale of alcoholic beverages. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a municipality from requiring a new business license application and approval for an alcoholic beverage license.

#### **SECTION 6. Unlawful to do business without a license.**

It shall be unlawful for any person, taxpayer, or agent of a person or taxpayer to engage in businesses or vocations in the municipality for which a license is required without first having procured a license. A violation of this division of the ordinance passed hereunder fixing a license shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for each offense, and if a willful violation, by imprisonment, not to exceed six months, or both, at the discretion of the court trying the same. Each day shall constitute a separate offense.

#### **SECTION 7. License must be posted.**

Every license shall be posted in a conspicuous place, where said business, trade or occupation is carried on, and the holder of the license shall immediately show same to the designee of the municipality upon being requested so to do.

## **SECTION 8. Duty to file report.**

(a) It shall be the duty of every person subject to such license tax to render to the municipality on such forms as shall be required, a sworn statement showing the total business done, amount of sales, gross receipts and gross sales, stock, value of furniture and other equipment, capital invested, number of helpers or employees, amount of space occupied, or other factor described in the schedule, one or several, as the case may require, for the ascertainment of the classification of such person for license taxation purposes and the correct amount of license tax to which he is subject.

(b) If the municipality determines that the amount of business license tax reported on or remitted with any business license remittance form is incorrect, if no business license remittance form is filed within the time prescribed, or if the information provided on the form is insufficient to allow the taxing jurisdiction to determine the proper amount of business license tax due, the municipality shall calculate the correct amount of the tax based on the most accurate and complete information reasonably obtainable and enter a preliminary assessment for the correct amount of business license tax, including any applicable penalty and interest.

(c) If the amount of business license tax remitted by the taxpayer is undisputed by the municipality, or if the taxpayer consents to the amount of any deficiency or preliminary assessment in writing, the municipality shall enter a final assessment for the amount of the tax due, plus any applicable penalty and interest.

(d) The municipality shall promptly mail a copy of any preliminary assessment to the taxpayer's last known address by either first class U.S. mail or certified U.S. mail with return receipt requested, or, in the sole discretion of the municipality, deliver the preliminary assessment to the taxpayer by personal delivery.

(e) (1) If a taxpayer disagrees with a preliminary assessment as entered by the taxing jurisdiction, the taxpayer shall file a petition for review with the municipal license officer within 30 days from the date of entry of the preliminary assessment setting out the specific objections to the preliminary assessment. If a petition for review is timely filed, the license officer of the municipality shall schedule a conference with the taxpayer for the purpose of allowing the taxpayer or its representatives and the representatives of the municipality to present their respective positions, discuss any omissions or errors, and to attempt to agree upon any changes or modifications to the assessment. The license officer shall issue findings of fact and law within 60 days following the conference, which shall promptly upon issuance be mailed or delivered to the taxpayer, consistent with the procedures set forth in subsection (d) above.

(2) If the taxpayer disagrees with the license officer's findings of fact and law, the taxpayer may appeal to the municipal governing body, by filing a notice of appeal with the municipal clerk within 30 days after the findings have been issued. The appeal shall be in writing and shall set forth in reasonable detail the grounds on which the taxpayer disagrees with the license officer's findings of fact and law.

(3) If a petition for review: a. is not timely filed, or b. is timely filed, and upon further review the license officer, or the administrative hearings officer or governing body of the municipality, as the case may be, determines that the preliminary assessment is due to be upheld in whole or in part, the taxing jurisdiction shall make the assessment final in the amount of business license tax due as computed by the taxing jurisdiction, with applicable penalty and interest.

(4) A copy of the final assessment shall promptly be mailed to the taxpayer's last known address (i) by either first class U.S. mail or certified U.S. mail with return receipt requested in the case of assessments of business license tax of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or less, or (ii) by certified U.S. mail with return receipt requested in the case of assessments of business license tax of more than five hundred (\$500.00). In either case, at the option of the taxing jurisdiction a copy of the final assessment may be delivered to the taxpayer by personal delivery.

**SECTION 9. Duty to permit inspection and produce records.**

Upon demand by the designee of the municipality, it shall be the duty of all licensees to:

(a) permit the designee of the municipality to enter the business and to inspect all portions of his place or places of business for the purposes of enabling said municipal designee to gain such information as may be necessary or convenient for determining the proper license classification, and determining the correct amount of license tax;

(b) furnish information during reasonable business hours, at the licensee's place of business, in the municipality or the police jurisdiction, all books of account, invoices, papers, reports and memoranda containing entries showing amount of purchases, sales receipts, inventory and other information from which the correct license tax classification of such person may be ascertained and the correct amount of license tax to which he is subject may be determined, including exhibition of bank deposit books, bank statements, copies of sales tax returns to the State of Alabama, copies of Alabama income tax returns and federal income tax returns.

**SECTION 10. Unlawful to obstruct.**

It shall be unlawful for any person, or for any agent, servant or employee of such person, to fail or refuse to perform any duty imposed by this ordinance; nor shall any person, agent, servant or employee of such person obstruct or interfere with the designee of the municipality in carrying out the purposes of this ordinance.

**SECTION 11. Privacy.**

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person connected with the administration of this ordinance to divulge any information obtained by him/her in the course of inspection and examination of the books, papers, reports and memoranda of the taxpayer made pursuant to the provisions of this ordinance, except to the mayor, the municipal attorney or others authorized by law to receive such information described herein.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to print, publish, or divulge, without the written permission or approval of the taxpayer, the license form of any taxpayer or any part of the license form, or any information secured in arriving at the amount of tax or value reported, for any purpose other than the proper administration of any matter administered by the taxing jurisdiction, or upon order of any court, or as otherwise allowed in this ordinance.

(c) Nothing herein shall prohibit the disclosure of the fact that a taxpayer has or has not purchased a business license. Statistical information pertaining to taxes may be disclosed to the municipality council upon their written request through the Mayor's office. It shall be unlawful for any person to violate the provisions of this section.

**SECTION 12. Failure to file assessment.**

(a) In any case where a person subject to paying a license tax as provided herein fails to do so, the municipal designee shall be authorized to assess and determine the amount of license taxes due using the best information available either by return filed or by other means.

(b) The taxpayer shall be notified by registered or certified mail, or by personal service, of the amount of any such assessment, and of his right to appear before the municipal governing body on a day named not less than twenty (20) days from the date of notice and to show cause why such assessment shall not be made final. Such appearance may be made by agent or attorney.

(c) If no showing is made on or before the date fixed in such notice, or if such showing is not sufficient in the judgment of the municipality, such assessment shall be made final in the amount originally fixed, or in such other amount as is determined by the municipality to be correct. If upon such hearing the municipal designee finds a different amount due than that originally assessed, he/she shall make the assessment final in the correct amount, and in all cases shall notify the taxpayer of the assessment as finally fixed.

(d) A notice by the United States mail, addressed to the taxpayer's last known place of business, shall be sufficient. Any assessment made by the designee of the municipality shall be prima facie correct upon any appeal.

### **SECTION 13. Lien for non-payment of license tax.**

On all property, both real and personal, used in the business, the municipality shall have a lien for such license, which lien shall attach as of the date when the license is due, as allowed by *Alabama Code*, Section 11-51-44 (1975).

### **SECTION 14. Criminal penalties.**

Any person found guilty of violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be fined in an amount not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) and not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00), and may also be sentenced to imprisonment for a period of not exceeding six (6) months, in the discretion of the court trying the case, and violations on separate days shall each constitute a separate offense.

### **SECTION 15. Civil penalties.**

In addition to the remedies provided by *Alabama Code*, Section 11-51-150 (1975) et seq., the continued or recurrent performance of any act or acts within the corporate limits or within its police jurisdiction for which a license may be revoked or suspended under this ordinance is hereby declared to be detrimental to the health, safety, comfort and convenience of the public and is a nuisance. The municipality, as an additional or alternative remedy, may institute injunctive proceedings in a court of competent jurisdiction to abate the same.

### **SECTION 16. Penalties and interest.**

(a) All licenses not paid within thirty (30) days from the date they fall due shall be increased by fifteen (15) percent for the first thirty (30) days they shall be delinquent, or fraction thereof, and shall be measured by an additional fifteen (15) percent for a delinquency of sixty (60) or more days, but this provision shall not be deemed to authorize the delay of thirty (30) days in the payment of the license due, which may be enforced at once.

(b) In the case of persons who began business on or after the first day of the calendar year, the license for such "new business" shall be increased by fifteen (15) percent for the first fifteen (15) days they shall be delinquent, and shall be measured by an additional fifteen (15) percent for a delinquency of forty-five (45) days or more.

(c) All delinquent accounts (both license taxes and penalties) shall also be charged simple interest at the rate of one (1) percent per month.

### **SECTION 17. Prosecutions unaffected.**

The adoption of this ordinance shall not in any manner affect any prosecution of any act illegally done contrary to the provisions of any ordinance now or heretofore in existence, and every such prosecution, whether begun before or after the enactment of this article shall be governed by the law under

which the offense was committed; nor shall a prosecution, or the right to prosecute, for the recovery of any penalty or the enforcement of any forfeiture be in any manner affected by the adoption of this ordinance; nor shall any civil action or cause of action existing prior to or at the time of the adoption of this ordinance be affected in any manner by its adoption.

#### **SECTION 18. Procedure for denial of new applications.**

(a) The municipal designee shall have the authority to investigate all applications and may refer any application to the municipal governing body for a determination of whether such license should or should not be issued.

(b) If the municipal governing body denies the issuance of any license referred to it, the municipal clerk shall promptly notify the applicant of the municipal governing body's decision.

(c) If said applicant desires to appear before the municipal governing body to show cause why said license should be issued, he shall file a written notice with the municipal clerk, said notice to be filed within two (2) weeks from the date of mailing by the municipal clerk of the notice of the denial of such license by the municipal governing body.

(d) Upon receipt of said notice the municipal clerk shall promptly schedule a hearing, to be held within fifteen (15) days from the date of receipt of such notice, before the municipal governing body and shall give the notice of the date, time and place of said hearing to the applicant.

(e) The applicant shall be given the opportunity to appear personally, or through his counsel, or both, and the municipal governing body shall proceed to hear any evidence which may be presented both for and against the issuance of said license.

(f) If the municipal governing body determines from the evidence presented that in order to either provide for the safety, preserve the health, promote the prosperity, or improve the morals, order, comfort and convenience of the inhabitants of the municipality said license should not be granted, it shall enter an order to that effect; otherwise, said license shall be ordered issued upon payment of any required license fees.

#### **SECTION 19. Procedure for revocation or suspension of license.**

(a) Any lawful license issued to any person to conduct any business shall be subject to revocation by the municipal governing body for the violation by the licensee, his agent, servant, or employee of any provision of this ordinance or of any ordinance of the municipality, or any statute of the State of Alabama relating to the business for which such license is issued; and shall also be subject to revocation by the municipal governing body if the licensee, his agent, servant, or employee under color of such license violates or aids or abets in violating or knowingly permits or suffers to be violated any penal ordinance of the municipality or any criminal law of the State of Alabama; and shall also be subject to revocation by the municipal governing body if, in connection with the issuance or renewal of any license, the licensee or his agent filed or caused to be filed any application, affidavit, statement, certificate, book, or any other data containing any false, deceptive or other misleading information or omission of material fact.

(b) The conditions hereinabove set forth as grounds for the revocation of a license shall also constitute grounds for refusing to renew a license.

(c) The municipal governing body shall set a time for hearing on the matter of revoking or refusing to renew a license; and a notice of such hearing shall be given to the licensee, or the applicant for renewal, as the case may be, at least ten (10) days before the day set for said hearing. At the hearing the municipal

governing body shall hear all evidence offered by any party and all evidence that may be presented bearing upon the question of revocation or the refusal of renewal, as the case may be.

## **SECTION 20. Refunds On Overpayments**

(a) Any taxpayer may file a petition for refund with the municipality for any overpayment of business license tax erroneously paid to the municipality. If a final assessment for the tax has been entered by the municipality, a petition for refund of all or a portion of the tax may be filed only if the final assessment has been paid in full prior to or simultaneously with the filing of the petition for refund.

(b) A petition for refund shall be filed with the municipality within two years from the date of payment of the business license tax, which is the subject of the petition.

(c) The municipality shall either grant or deny a petition for refund within six months from the date the petition is filed, unless the period is extended by written agreement of the taxpayer and the municipality. The taxpayer shall be notified of the municipality's decision concerning the petition for refund by first class U.S. mail or by certified U.S. mail, return receipt requested, sent to the taxpayer's last known address. If the municipality fails to grant a full refund within the time provided herein, the refund petition shall be deemed to be denied.

(d) If the petition is granted or the municipality or a court otherwise determines that a refund is due, the overpayment shall be promptly refunded to the taxpayer by the municipality, together with interest to the extent provided for in Section 11-51-92. If the municipality determines that a refund is due, the amount of overpayment plus any interest due thereon may first be credited by the municipality against any outstanding tax liabilities due and owing by the taxpayer to the municipality, and the balance of any overpayment shall be promptly refunded to the taxpayer. If any refund or part thereof is credited to any other tax by the municipality, the taxpayer shall be provided with a written detailed statement showing the amount of overpayment, the amount credited for payment to other taxes, and the resulting amount of the refund.

(e) A taxpayer may appeal from the denial in whole or in part of a petition for refund by filing a notice of appeal with the clerk of the circuit court of the county in which the municipality denying the petition for refund is located. Said notice of appeal must be filed within two years from the date the petition was denied. The circuit court shall hear the appeal according to its own rules and procedures and shall determine the correct amount of refund due, if any. If an appeal is not filed with the appropriate circuit court within two years of the date the petition was denied, then the appeal shall be dismissed for lack of jurisdiction.

## **SECTION 21. Delivery License**

(a) In lieu of any other type of license, a taxpayer may at its option purchase for \$ 50.00 plus the issuance fee, a delivery license for the privilege of delivering its merchandise in the municipality if the taxpayer meets all of the following criteria:

- (1) Other than deliveries, the taxpayer has no other physical presence within the municipality or its police jurisdiction;
- (2) The taxpayer conducts no other business in the municipality other than delivering merchandise and performing the requisite set-up and installation of said merchandise;
- (3) Such delivery and set-up and installation is performed by the taxpayer's employees or agents, concerns the taxpayer's own merchandise in that municipality, and is done by means of delivery vehicles owned, leased, or contracted by the taxpayer;

(4) The gross receipts derived from the sale and any requisite set-up or installation of all merchandise so delivered shall not exceed seventy-five thousand (\$75,000.00) during the license year;

(5) Any set-up or installation shall relate only to (i) that required by the contract between the taxpayer and the customer or as may be required by state or local law, and (ii) the merchandise so delivered;

(6) If at any time during the current license year the taxpayer fails to meet any of the above stated criteria, then within 10 days after any of said criteria have been violated or exceeded, the taxpayer shall purchase all appropriate business licenses from the municipality for the entire license year and without regard to this section.

(b) Mere delivery of the taxpayer's merchandise by common carrier shall not allow the municipality to assess a business license tax against the taxpayer, but the gross receipts derived from any sale and delivery accomplished by means of a common carrier shall be counted against the seventy-five thousand dollar (\$75,000.00) limitation described in the preceding section if the taxpayer also during the same license year sells and delivers into the taxing jurisdiction using a delivery vehicle other than a common carrier.

(c) A common carrier, contract carrier, or similar delivery service making deliveries on behalf of others shall not be entitled to purchase a delivery license.

(d) The delivery license shall be calculated in arrears, based on the related gross receipts during the preceding license year.

(e) The purchase of a delivery license shall not, in and of itself, establish nexus between the taxpayer and the municipality for the purposes of the taxes levied by or under the authority of Title 40 of the Code of Alabama, or other provisions of law, nor does the purchase of a delivery license conclusively determine that nexus does not exist between the taxpayer and the municipality.

## **SECTION 22. License Classifications and Fee Schedules.**

The license classifications and fee schedule for business licenses in the Town of Sweet Water, Alabama, shall be as follows:

<u>CODE</u>	<u>TITLE &amp; LICENSE GROUPING</u>	<u>LICENSE FEE</u>
111998	<b>Farming and Crop Production</b> - agriculture, nursery, fruit growers	\$ 75.00
112990	<b>Animal Production</b> - dairy, cattle, ranching, sheep, chickens, poultry	75.00
113110	<b>Forestry</b> - logging, forestry, timber track operations, timber mgt.	75.00
114119	<b>Fishing &amp; hunting</b> - hunting and trapping, finfish, shellfish, supplies	75.00
115114	<b>Agriculture support</b> - cotton gins, farm mgt, post-harvest activities	100.00
211111	<b>Oil and gas extraction</b> - natural gas liquid extraction, crude extraction -where not State regulated - See § 40-20-2(c)	100.00
212299	<b>Mining</b> - (except for oil and gas) all related mining activities (where not State regulated)	100.00
213112	<b>Mining support services</b> - for oil and gas mining activities, oil/gas wells	100.00

(where not State regulated)

221122	<b>Utilities</b> - electric power or light company	State regulated	§ 11-51-129
221210	<b>Utilities</b> - natural gas company	State regulated	§11-51-129
221310	<b>Utilities</b> - water, sewage treatment, steam, and other (where not State regulated)		100.00
236220	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>general contractors</u> , comm bldg, residential, subdivisions		75.00
237990	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>heavy construction</u> , highway, bridge, street, water, sewer		75.00
238110	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>specialty trade</u> - concrete contractors		75.00
238115	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>specialty trade</u> - water well drilling & irrigation		75.00
238120	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>specialty trade</u> - structural steel erection		75.00
238140	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>specialty trade</u> - masonry and stone contractors		75.00
238150	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>specialty trade</u> - glass and glazing contractors		75.00
238160	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>specialty trade</u> - roofing, siding & sheet metal		75.00
238210	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>specialty trade</u> - electrical contractors		75.00
238220	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>specialty trade</u> - plumbing, heating & air conditioning		75.00
238310	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>specialty trade</u> - drywall, acoustical & insulation		75.00
238320	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>specialty trade</u> - painting and wall covering		75.00
238330	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>specialty trade</u> - floor coverings/all types		75.00
238350	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>specialty trade</u> - carpentry contractors		75.00
238430	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>specialty trade</u> - tile, marble, terrazzo & mosaic		75.00
238910	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>specialty trade</u> - excavation and site development		75.00
238990	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>specialty trade</u> - wrecking and demolition		75.00
238990	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>specialty trade</u> - building equipment & mechanical install		75.00
238990	<b>Contractors</b> - <u>specialty trades contractors</u> - non-general & non-heavy		75.00
311991	<b>Food mfg</b> - meat, seafood, grain, fruit, dairy, animal, poultry processing		100.00
312132	<b>Beer and Wine</b> – wholesale distributor		200.00
312212	<b>Beverage mfg</b> - all types of soft drinks, bottled water, breweries, ice		100.00
313112	<b>Textile mfg</b> - fabric, yarn, carpet, canvas, rope, twine, fabric mills		100.00
314129	<b>Other mfg</b> - mill operations not covered in 313, rugs, linen, curtains		100.00
315999	<b>Apparel mfg</b> - women, men, children, hosiery, lingerie, outerwear, accessories		100.00
316993	<b>Leather mfg</b> - shoes, luggage, handbag, related products, all footwear		100.00
321999	<b>Wood mfg</b> - sawmills, wood preservation, veneer, trusses, millwork		100.00
322229	<b>Paper mfg</b> - pulp, paper, and converted products, stationary, tubes, cores		100.00
323110	<b>Printing</b> - screen, quick, digital, books, lithographic, handbills, comm.		50.00
324199	<b>Petroleum and coal mfg</b> - asphalt, grease, roofing, paving products		100.00
325998	<b>Chemical mfg</b> - of fertilizer, wood, pesticide, paint, soap, resin,		100.00

326291	<b>Plastic &amp; rubber mfg</b> - tires, pipe, hoses, belts, bottles, sheet, wrap, film	100.00
327331	<b>Nonmetallic mfg</b> - glass, cement, lime, pottery, ceramic, brick, tile	100.00
331521	<b>Primary metal mfg</b> - iron, steel, aluminum, wire, copper, foundries	100.00
332999	<b>Metal fabrication</b> - cutlery, structural, ornamental, machine shops	100.00
333990	<b>Machinery mfg</b> - office machinery, industrial, engines, farm, HVAC	100.00
334419	<b>Computer &amp; electronic mfg</b> - audio, video, circuit boards, peripherals	100.00
335211	<b>Appliance mfg</b> - small appliance, lighting, electrical, battery, freezer	100.00
336112	<b>Transportation mfg</b> - mfg auto, truck, trailer, motor home, boat, ship, motorcycle	100.00
337129	<b>Furniture mfg</b> - cabinets, office, household, beds, medical, kitchen	100.00
339999	<b>Miscellaneous mfg</b> - specialty mfg not defined in separate categories	100.00
421990	<b>Wholesale trade - durable</b> , vehicle, machinery, equipment, furniture	100.00
422720	<b>Wholesale trade</b> - wholesale gasoline distributor	200.00
422990	<b>Wholesale trade -non-durable</b> , paper, apparel, grocery, beverages, dairy	100.00
424940	<b>Wholesale merchant</b> – tobacco products	50.00
441310	<b>Motor vehicle parts</b> - auto, motorcycles, boats, parts, accessories	\$ 50.00
441110	<b>Motor vehicles</b> - new and/or used - automobiles, motorcycles, etc. - dealerships and lots	75.00
442110	<b>Furniture</b> - furniture, home furnishings, stores, floor coverings, window	50.00
443112	<b>Electronic &amp; appliance store</b> - household, radio, television, computers	75.00
444130	<b>Building materials and Gardening Equipment Dealers</b> - hardware, paint, home center, wallpaper, nursery	200.00
445120	<b>Food &amp; beverage stores</b> - grocery, convenience store, markets	200.00
446110	<b>Health and Personal Care stores</b> - drug, pharmacy, cosmetic, optical, health food	100.00
447110	<b>Gasoline Retail</b> - selling gasoline with or without convenience stores	200.00
448130	<b>Clothing &amp; accessories</b> - men, women, children, infant, shoe, jewelry	75.00
451110	<b>Sporting goods &amp; hobbies</b> - toy, fish, gun, books, games	75.00
452990	<b>General merchandise stores</b> - department, warehouse clubs, superstores	200.00
453212	<b>Used Merchandise Stores</b> - books, miscellaneous, consignment, flea mkt.	50.00
453220	<b>Miscellaneous retailers</b> - florist, gift, novelty, pet, art, tobacco,	50.00
454210	<b>Non-store retailers</b> - vending machine operators, direct selling, mail order	50.00
453998	<b>Fireworks Stands</b>	150.00
	(June 20 <sup>th</sup> – July 10 <sup>th</sup> and Dec. 15 <sup>th</sup> – Jan. 2 <sup>nd</sup> .)	
454391	<b>Non-Store Retailer</b> - peddlers license / itinerant peddler	Per day: 35.00 Per Year 75.00
484110	<b>Truck transportation</b> - local, long-distance, freight, moving, and storage	100.00

484230	<b>Truck transportation – terminal</b>	State regulated	§37-3-33
485113	<b>Passenger transportation - charter and other vehicle transit services</b> (where not State regulated)		75.00
485114	<b>Passenger transportation - bus terminals</b>	State regulated	§ 37-3-33
485320	<b>Passenger transportation - buses, taxi cabs, limousine service, buggy, charters</b>		75.00
485321	<b>Passenger transportation - number of taxis, cabs, limousines, or buggies</b>		75.00
487990	<b>Sightseeing transportation - scenic and sightseeing, land, air, water, special trans</b>		75.00
492210	<b>Couriers - couriers and local messengers, services, local delivery services</b>		75.00
493110	<b>Warehousing and storage - distribution, household, refrigerated, special</b>		75.00
511110	<b>Publishing industries - (except internet) newspaper, book, periodical, databases, software</b>		75.00
511120	<b>Advertising Media</b>		75.00
512131	<b>Motion pictures - theatres, videos, recording, drive-ins, sound studios</b>		100.00
515112	<b>Broadcasting - radio and television stations</b>		100.00
517310	<b>Telecommunications - telephone local</b>	State regulated	§11-51-128
517320	<b>Telecommunications - telephone long distance</b>	State regulated	§11-51-128
517322	<b>Telecommunications - cellular and other wireless, paging</b>		100.00
517310	<b>Telecommunications - resellers of service</b>		100.00
517410	<b>Satellite Sales / service and set up</b>		100.00
519190	<b>Information services and data processing - providing, storing, processing, access to information</b>		75.00
522110	<b>Bank Main Office - not branch location or ATM</b>	State regulated	§11-51-130
522111	<b>Bank Branch or ATM - not main office of bank</b>	State regulated	§11-51-130
522120	<b>Savings and Loans - not branch location or ATM</b>	State regulated	§11-51-131
522121	<b>S&amp;L Branch or ATM - not main office of S&amp;L</b>	State regulated	§11-51-131
522298	<b>Pawn Shop - whether title pawn or merchandise</b>		100.00
522390	<b>Credit services - companies and activities related to credit and mediation</b>		100.00
523999	<b>Securities, commodity - brokerage, portfolio, investment, other financial services</b>		100.00
524126	<b>Insurance Company and/or its agents - casualty, fire, and/or marine premiums</b>	State regulated	§11-51-120 to 123
524128	<b>Insurance Company and/or its agents - health, allied and all other premiums</b>	State regulated	§11-51-120 to 123
524210	<b>Agent Office - administration of third parties, pension funds, annuities, etc</b>		100.00
525990	<b>Funds, trusts, other financial agencies - funds, plans, and/or programs organized to pool securities or other assets for others</b>		100.00
531190	<b>Residential Rental – Trailer Parks</b>		50.00

531210	<b>Real estate</b> - offices, agents, brokers, management, appraisers	50.00
532310	<b>Rental and leasing</b> - auto, truck, trailer, RV, all tangible property	75.00
532230	<b>Rental and leasing</b> - movie and video rental	75.00
541110	<b>Attorney/Lawyers</b> - individual and/or firm professional license	50.00
541211	<b>Accountant/CPAs</b> - individual and/or firm professional license	50.00
541310	<b>Architect</b> - individual and/or firm professional license	50.00
541330	<b>Engineer</b> - individual and/or firm professional license	50.00
541360	<b>Surveyor</b> - individual and/or firm professional license	50.00
541511	<b>Computer Programmer</b> - individual and/or professional firm license	50.00
541921	<b>Photographer</b> - studios, portrait, commercial, services	100.00
541940	<b>Veterinarian</b> - individual and/or firm professional license	100.00
541990	<b>Professional Services Not Elsewhere Classified</b> - scientific, technical, (includes lumber dealers)	75.00
551111	<b>Management companies</b> - offices, enterprises, regional, corporate	75.00
561499	<b>Administrative services</b> - answering, employment, office, sec., travel, (including private investigator)	75.00
561621	<b>Alarm Companies</b> - sprinklers & security-monitoring & installation	100.00
561710	<b>Exterminating services</b> - exterminating company and its services	100.00
561720	<b>Janitorial firm</b> - janitorial cleaning services - individual or firm	50.00
561730	<b>Landscaping Services</b> - tree removal, irrigation sprinkler	50.00
561731	<b>Lawn Maintenance</b> - tree trimming, lawn maintenance, pressure washing	50.00
562998	<b>Waste management</b> - companies, trucks, septic tanks, landfill, services	250.00
611699	<b>Educational services</b> - technical, computer, sports, services, business	75.00
621111	<b>Physician</b> - individual and/or firm professional license	100.00
621210	<b>Dentist</b> - individual and/or firm professional license	100.00
621310	<b>Chiropractor</b> - individual and/or firm professional license	100.00
621320	<b>Optometrist</b> - individual and/or firm professional license	100.00
621491	<b>HMO</b> - medical centers and services	100.00
621498	<b>Outpatient Care Centers</b> - all other types of services	100.00
621910	<b>Ambulance</b> - ambulance company and/or services	100.00
622110	<b>Hospitals</b> - surgical, substance abuse, psychiatric, general care, special	100.00
623110	<b>Nursing care</b> - residential care facility, day care, assisted living	100.00
623312	<b>Nursing Home</b> - care for elderly and continuing care facilities	100.00
624110	<b>Social assistance</b> - shelters, vocational, child care, abuse, emergency	100.00
711310	<b>Arts and sports</b> - dance, musical, teams, tracks, promoters, agents	100.00
711310	<b>Special Events</b> - promoter of activity, disc jockey	100.00

712110	<b>Museums</b> - museums and historical sites, zoos, botanical gardens, parks	100.00
713110	<b>Amusement</b> - arcades, golf clubs, marinas, fitness, bowling centers	75.00
721110	<b>Accommodations</b> - hotels, motels and similar facilities	75.00
721191	<b>Accommodations</b> - bed and breakfast inns and services	75.00
721214	<b>Accommodations</b> - trailer parks, RV parks, and travel parks	75.00
721310	<b>Accommodations</b> - rooming houses and boarding houses	75.00
722110	<b>Restaurant</b> - full service restaurant facility	50.00
722211	<b>Restaurant</b> - limited facility or service	50.00
722320	<b>Caterers</b> - and/or mobile food services	50.00
811118	<b>Repairs and maintenance</b> - auto, paint/body, carwash, other vehicular	50.00
811219	<b>Repairs and maintenance</b> - all electronic equipment	50.00
811412	<b>Repairs and maintenance</b> - all appliances, home & garden equipment	50.00
811430	<b>Shoe Shop</b> - Repair	50.00
812199	<b>Personal Care Services</b> - hair, skin, barber, beautician, diet, nail, tanning	50.00
812210	<b>Funeral Homes and Funeral Services</b>	75.00
812990	<b>Other Personal Services</b> - (including bail bondsmen)	75.00
812990	<b>Fortune Teller or Clairvoyant</b> - individual reader license	500.00
999111	<b>Unclassified</b> miscellaneous <u>business</u> services not elsewhere classified	50.00
999222	<b>Unclassified</b> miscellaneous <u>personal</u> services not elsewhere classified (including wrecker services)	50.00
999999	<b>Delivery License</b> - (as defined in Section 21 of this Ordinance)	50.00

**SECTION 23. Exchange of information.**

(a) The license officer may exchange tax returns, information, records, and other documents secured by the municipality, with other municipalities adopting similar ordinances for the exchange of taxpayer information, or with county or state authorities. The license officer may charge a reasonable fee for providing such information or documents. Any tax returns, information, records, or other documents so exchanged shall remain subject to the confidentiality provisions, restrictions, and criminal penalties for unauthorized disclosure as provided under state or municipal law.

(b) Any such exchange shall be for one or more of the following purposes:

(1) Collecting taxes due.

(2) Ascertaining the amount of taxes due from any person.

(3) Determining whether a person is liable for, or whether there is probable cause for believing a person might be liable for, the payment of any tax to a state, county, or municipal agency.

(c) Nothing herein shall prohibit the use of tax returns or tax information by the municipality in the proper administration of any matter administered by the license officer. The license officer may also divulge to a purchaser, prospective purchaser as defined pursuant to the regulations of the Alabama Department of

Revenue, or successor of a business or stock of goods the outstanding sales, use, or rental tax liability of the seller for which the purchaser, prospective purchaser as defined pursuant to the regulations of the Alabama Department of Revenue, or successor may be liable pursuant to the Code of Alabama section 40-23-25, 40-23-82, or 40-12-224.

**SECTION 24. License fees in Police jurisdiction.**

Any person, firm, association, or corporation engaged in any business outside the municipality but within the police jurisdiction hereof shall pay one-half of the amount of the license imposed for like business within the municipality.

**SECTION 25. Effective date.**

This ordinance shall become effective on and after January 1, 2008.

**SECTION 26. Severability.**

The sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this ordinance are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, then such ruling shall not affect any other paragraphs and sections, since the same would have been enacted by the municipality council without the incorporation of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section.

**SECTION 27. Repealer.**

The provisions of this Ordinance shall, from the effective date of this ordinance, be the law regulating business licenses in the Town of Sweet Water, and Ordinance Number 2000 - 001, and any other Ordinances or parts of Ordinances which are in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance, are hereby repealed,

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED**, this 26th day of November, 2007.

TOWN OF SWEET WATER, ALABAMA

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilman

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Councilman

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Councilman

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Councilman