



**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 12 OF THE CITY OF SOUTHPORT  
CODE OF ORDINANCES AS IT PERTAINS TO CITY PARKS AND FACILITIES**

**BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Southport that Chapter 12 of the Code of Ordinances entitled “Parks and Recreation” is hereby amended to the following:

**CHAPTER 12.**

**ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL**

**Sec. 12-1.** Boats running into and damaging any public wharves, docks or bridges within the city prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for a boat or flat of any description to run into, damage or tear up any of the bridges or public wharves, or approaches to the docks of the city.

(Code 1974, § 7.181)

**Sec. 12-2. Use of city pier and dock.**

(a) Except in cases of emergency where there is imminent danger to life or property, it shall be unlawful for any person to tie up, dock or moor any ship, boat, or other vessel at the city pier located at the south end of Davis Street or the city dock located at the yacht basin.

(b) Except in cases of emergency wherein there is imminent danger to life or property, it shall be unlawful for any person to block access to the city pier located at the south end of Davis Street or the city dock located at the yacht basin.

(c) The prohibitions contained in subsections (a) and (b) of this section shall not prohibit any lawful lessee of a designated boat slip from tying up, mooring or docking his vessel at his own leased boat slip at the city pier located at the south end of Davis Street or the city dock located at the yacht basin.

(d) A violation of the provisions of this section shall be punishable in accordance with section 1-6.

(Ord. of 10-9-80, § 4)

**Sec. 12-3. Mooring of vessels in Southport Yacht Basin restricted.**

(a) No person shall allow a boat or other vessel owned by him, registered in his name or under his control to be moored or anchored in the navigable waters of the Southport Yacht Basin for more than thirty (30) days in any forty-five (45) consecutive-day period. Boats moored or anchored for any portion of a day shall be considered to be moored or anchored for that day.

(b) Violation of this section shall be punishable as a misdemeanor in accordance with section 1-6.

(Ord. of 1-10-91(2), § 1)

**Secs. 12-4—12-25. Reserved.**

**ARTICLE II. CAVINESS, FRANKLIN SQUARE, KEZIAH, LOWE WHITE, TAYLOR FIELD, KINGSLEY, ATLANTIC STREET, FORT JOHNSTON, GARRISON LAWN PARKS**

**Sec. 12-26. Use; hours of operation.**

- (a) Franklin Square Park, Keziah Park and Lowe Park, Taylor Field Park, Kingsley Park, Atlantic Street Park, Ft. Johnston Park, Garrison Lawn shall be open to the general public each day between the hours of 6:00 am to **dusk**.
- ~~(b) A. C. Caviness Park shall be open only between the hours of 8:00 am to 6:00 pm on Monday through Saturday and from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Sunday. Caviness Park is hereby designated as a youth park and is restricted to persons thirteen (13) years of age and younger. Notwithstanding this limitation, a parent, sibling or other person responsible for a youth may accompany said youth while the youth is in the park.~~
- ~~(c) Special events held in Caviness Park shall require a permit to be issued by the chief of police. Application for said permit must be made in writing at least 3 days before the date of said special event.~~

(Ord. of 10-10-85(1), § 5.61; Ord. of 9-14-00(3); Ord. of 6-14-01)

**Sec. 12-27. Prohibited activities.**

- (a) The following activities are hereby prohibited in Caviness Park, Franklin Square Park, Keziah Park, Lowe Park, Taylor Field Park, Kingsley Park, Atlantic Street Park, Ft. Johnston Park, Garrison Lawn:
- (1) Consumption of malt beverages and unfortified wine.
  - (2) Bicycle and skateboard riding.
  - (3) Overnight camping. Camping means sleeping, making preparations to sleep (including lying down or the laying down of bedding for the purpose of sleeping), and/or storing personal belongings: the placement of tents, huts, tarps: parking of a motor vehicle, motor home or trailer, or mooring of a vessel or another type of structure for living accommodation purposes. Camping as defined in this section is deemed as public nuisance, and the City may summarily remove a temporary shelter, bedding, or personal belongings,
  - (4) Public Property means all city-owned property including, but not limited to, streets, sidewalks, alleys, improved or unimproved land, and parks.
  - (5) Cooking and/or open fires
  - (6) Operate, park, drive a motorized vehicle inside the park boundaries. Motorized vehicles are defined to include electric and/or gas-powered golf carts
- (b) The prohibitions set forth in this section shall not apply to any activity sponsored or supervised by the parks and recreation department.

(Ord. of 10-10-85(1), § 5.61)

**Secs. 12-28—12-40. Reserved.**

***ARTICLE III. SOUTHPORT WATERFRONT PARK***

**Sec. 12-41. Prohibited activities at park.**

- (a) The following activities are hereby expressly prohibited at the Southport Waterfront Park and on the city's waterfront:
- (1) Consumption of malt beverages and unfortified wine.
  - (2) Bicycle and skateboard riding.
  - (3) Fishing and swimming.
  - (4) Overnight camping. Camping means sleeping, making preparations to sleep (including lying down or the laying down of bedding for the purpose of sleeping), and/or storing personal belongings: the placement of tents, huts, tarps: parking of a motor vehicle, motor home or trailer, or mooring of a vessel or another type of structure for living accommodation purposes. Camping as defined in this section is deemed as public nuisance, and the City may summarily remove a temporary shelter, bedding, or personal belongings.
  - (5) PUBLIC PROPERTY means all city-owned property including, but not limited to, streets, sidewalks, alleys, improved or unimproved land, and parks.
  - (6) Operate, park, or drive a motorized vehicle inside the park boundaries. Motorized vehicles are defined to include electric and/or gas-powered golf carts.
  - (7) Cooking and/or open fires.
  - (8) Sports or athletic activities.
- (b) The prohibitions set forth herein shall not apply to any activity sponsored or supervised by the parks and recreation department.

(Ord. of 10-10-85(1), § 5.62)

**Sec. 12-42. Prohibited activities at pier.**

- (a) The following activities are hereby expressly prohibited at or on the city pier:
- (1) Consumption of malt beverages and unfortified wine.
  - (2) Bicycle or skateboard riding.
  - (3) Swimming and diving.
  - (4) Shark fishing between the hours of 12:00 and 6:00 a.m.

(Ord. of 10-10-85(1), § 5.63)

**Sec. 12-43. Swimming, diving at dock.**

There shall be no swimming or diving from the city dock.

(Ord. of 10-10-85(1), § 5.64)

**Sec. 12-44. Prohibited activities on boardwalk sections of Riverwalk including the Kingsley Street River Access Site.**

(a) The following activities are hereby expressly prohibited on the boardwalk sections of Riverwalk including the Kingsley Street River Access Site.

(1) Possession and/or consumption of malt beverages, unfortified wine or any alcoholic beverages.

(2) Riding bicycles, skateboards, roller skates or roller blades.

(3) Cooking.

(4) Fishing, crabbing or any fishing or crabbing related activity.

(5) Climbing on or removal of any shoreline stabilization materials.

(6) Overnight camping: Camping means sleeping, making preparations to sleep (including lying down or the laying down of bedding for the purpose of sleeping), and/or storing personal belongings: the placement of tents, huts, tarps: parking of a motor vehicle, motor home or trailer, or mooring of a vessel or another type of structure for living accommodation purposes. Camping as defined in this section is deemed as public nuisance, and the City may summarily remove a temporary shelter, bedding, or personal belongings,

(7) PUBLIC PROPERTY means all city-owned property including, but not limited to, streets, sidewalks, alleys, improved or unimproved land, and parks.

**Section 12-45. Penalties and Enforcement.**

(1) Any sworn law enforcement officer or person designated and appointed by the Manager shall have the authority to enforce the civil violations of this section.

(2) In addition to being a misdemeanor pursuant to G.S. 14-4, any violation of this chapter shall subject the offender to a civil penalty in the amount of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per violation. The Board and the City may revise and update the penalty as part of the regular fee schedule updates.

(3) Each subsequent day or continued violation shall constitute an additional violation.

(Ord. of 11-9-93; Ord. of 12-9-04)

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the City of Southport Board of Aldermen that the proposed Code of Ordinances amendment of Chapter 12, Article II and III, is hereby adopted and shall become effective immediately. All provisions of any City ordinance or resolution in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

The foregoing Ordinance, having been submitted to a vote, received the following vote, and was duly adopted this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of September 2023.

Ayes: \_\_\_\_\_

Noes: \_\_\_\_\_

Absent or Excused: \_\_\_\_\_

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Joseph P. Hatem, M.D., M. P. H.  
Mayor, City of Southport

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Dorothy Dutton, Asst City Manager/Clerk