

REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Meeting Date: October 16, 2023

Agenda Item: 7	Prepared by: Randy Wright, Finance Director
Agenda Section: New Business: Ordinance. First Reading	Date: October 4, 2023
Subject: Amendment Chapter 7, Business License, Taxes, and Regulations, of the Code of Ordinances for North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina to update the Class Schedule as required by Act 176 of 2020	Division: Finance

Background:

South Carolina’s Act 176, the Business License Standardization Act, requires every municipality to update its Business Licensing Class Schedule every odd-numbered year, to go into effect the following year. The new Business License Class Schedule will begin for new licenses and renewals for the May 1, 2024 through April 30, 2025 license period.

Minor amendments to language and/or rates in classes 8.3, 8.51, 8.52, 8.6, 9.91 and 9.94 were recommended by the Municipal Association of South Carolina to further the standardization of Business License Ordinances in all state municipalities.

Recommended Action:

Approve or deny the ordinance amendment on second reading

Reviewed by Department Head	Reviewed by City Manager	Reviewed by City Attorney
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Council Action:
Motion By _____ 2nd By _____ To _____

AN ORDINANCE

AMENDING THE BUSINESS LICENSE ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH MYRTLE BEACH TO UPDATE THE CLASS SCHEDULE AS REQUIRED BY ACT 176 OF 2020.

WHEREAS, the City of North Myrtle Beach (the “Municipality”) is authorized by S.C. Code Section 5-7-30 and Title 6, Chapter 1, Article 3 to impose a business license tax on gross income;

WHEREAS, by Act No. 176 of 2020, known as the South Carolina Business License Tax Standardization Act and codified at S.C. Code Sections 6-1-400 to -420 (the “Standardization Act”), the South Carolina General Assembly imposed additional requirements and conditions on the administration of business license taxes;

WHEREAS, the Standardization Act requires that by December thirty-first of every odd year, each municipality levying a business license tax must adopt, by ordinance, the latest Standardized Business License Class Schedule as recommended by the Municipal Association of South Carolina (the “Association”) and adopted by the Director of the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office;

WHEREAS, following the enactment of the Standardization Act, the Municipality enacted Ordinance No. 22-08 on February 21, 2022 in order to comply with the requirements of the Standardization Act (the “Current Business License Ordinance”);

WHEREAS, the City Council of the Municipality (the “Council”) now wishes to amend the Current Business License Ordinance to adopt the latest Standardized Business License Class Schedule, as required by the Standardization Act, and to make other minor amendments as recommended by the Association.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Council of the City of North Myrtle Beach, as follows:

SECTION 1. Amendments to Appendix A. Appendix A to the Current Business License Ordinance, the “Business License Rate Schedule,” is hereby amended as follows:

- (a) Class 8.3 is hereby amended by deleting the NAICS Codes and replacing them with NAICS 517111, 517112, 517122 – Telephone Companies.
- (b) Classes 8.51 and 8.52 are hereby amended by adding business license rates of \$12.50 in accordance with the Current Business License Ordinance.
- (c) Class 8.6 is hereby amended and restated in its entirety to read as follows: “**8.6 NAICS Code Varies – Billiard or Pool Tables**. A business that offers the use of billiard or pool tables shall be subject to business license taxation under its natural class for all gross income of the business excluding the gross income attributable to the billiard or pool tables. In addition, the billiard or pool tables shall require their own separate business licenses pursuant to SC Code § 12-21-2746 and shall be subject to a license tax of \$5.00 per table measuring less than 3½ feet wide and 7 feet long, and \$12.50 per table longer than that.”

- (d) Classes 9.91 and 9.94 are hereby amended to the language in the Current Business License Ordinance, "Per \$1,000, or fraction, over \$2,000."

SECTION 2. Amendments to Appendix B. Appendix B to the Current Business License Ordinance, the "Business License Class Schedule," is hereby amended as follows:

- (a) Classes 1 through 8 in Appendix B to the Current Business License Ordinance, the "Business License Class Schedule," are hereby amended and restated as set forth on the attached Exhibit A.
- (b) Class 9 in Appendix B to the Current Business License Ordinance, the "Business License Class Schedule," shall remain in full force and effect as set forth in the Current Business License Ordinance.

SECTION 3. Repealer, Effective Date. All ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed. This ordinance shall be effective with respect to the business license year beginning on May 1, 2024.

DONE, RATIFIED AND PASSED, THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2023.

ATTEST:

Mayor Marilyn Hatley

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney

FIRST READING: 10.16.2023

SECOND READING: _____

REVIEWED:

City Manager

ORDINANCE: _____

**Exhibit A: Amendment to Classes 1 – 8 in Appendix B of the
Current Business License Ordinance**

APPENDIX B

Classes 1 – 8: Business License Class Schedule by NAICS Codes

NAICS Sector/Subsector	Industry Sector	Class
11	Agriculture, forestry, hunting and fishing	1
21	Mining	2
22	Utilities	1
31 - 33	Manufacturing	3
42	Wholesale trade	1
44 - 45	Retail trade	1
48 - 49	Transportation and warehousing	1
51	Information	4
52	Finance and insurance	7
53	Real estate and rental and leasing	7
54	Professional, scientific, and technical services	5
55	Management of companies	7
56	Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	3
61	Educational services	3
62	Health care and social assistance	4
71	Arts, entertainment, and recreation	3
721	Accommodation	1
722	Food services and drinking places	2
81	Other services	4
Class 8	Subclasses	
23	Construction	8.1
482	Rail Transportation	8.2
517111	Wired Telecommunications Carriers	8.3
517112	Wireless Telecommunications Carriers (except Satellite)	8.3
517122	Agents for Wireless Telecommunications Services	8.3
5241	Insurance Carriers	8.4
5242	Insurance Brokers for non-admitted Insurance Carriers	8.4
713120	Amusement Parks and Arcades	8.51
713290	Nonpayout Amusement Machines	8.52
713990	All Other Amusement and Recreational Industries (pool tables)	8.6

2023 Class Schedule is based on a three-year average (2017 - 2019) of IRS statistical data.

Sec. 7-21. Classification and Rates.

- A. The business license tax for each class of businesses subject to this ordinance shall be computed in accordance with the current business license rate schedule, designated as Appendix A to this ordinance, which may be amended from time to time by the Council.
- B. The current business license class schedule is attached hereto as Appendix B. Hereafter, no later than December 31 of each odd year, the Municipality shall adopt, by ordinance, the latest standardized business license class schedule as recommended by the Municipal Association of South Carolina and adopted by the Director of the South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office. Upon adoption by the Municipality, the revised business license class schedule shall then be appended to this ordinance as a replacement Appendix B.
- C. The classifications included in each rate class are listed with NAICS codes, by sector, sub-sector, group, or industry. The business license class schedule (Appendix B) is a tool for classification and not a limitation on businesses subject to a business license tax. The classification in the most recent version of the business license class schedule adopted by the Council that most specifically identifies the subject business shall be applied to the business. The license official shall have the authority to make the determination of the classification most specifically applicable to a subject business.
- D. A copy of the class schedule and rate schedule shall be filed in the office of the municipal clerk.

APPENDIX A:

BUSINESS LICENSE RATE SCHEDULE

RATE CLASS	INCOME: \$0 - \$2,000	INCOME OVER \$2,000
	BASE RATE	RATE PER \$1,000 OR FRACTION THEREOF
1	\$50.00	\$1.75
2	\$55.00	\$1.85
3	\$60.00	\$1.95
4	\$65.00	\$2.05
5	\$70.00	\$2.15
6	\$75.00	\$2.25
7	\$80.00	\$2.35
8 and 9	See Individual Business in Class 8 and Class 9	

NON-RESIDENT RATES

Unless otherwise specifically provided, all taxes and rates shall be doubled for non-residents and itinerants having no fixed principal place of business within the Municipality.

DECLINING RATES

Declining rates apply in all Classes for gross income in excess of one million dollars (\$1,000,000), unless otherwise specifically provided for in this ordinance.

Gross Income in \$ Millions	Percent of Class Rate for each additional \$1,000
0—1	100%
1—2	95%
2—3	90%
3—4	85%
4—5	80%
Over 5	75%

CLASS 8 RATES

Each NAICS number designates a separate subclassification. The businesses in this section are treated as separate and individual subclasses due to provisions of state law, regulatory requirements, service burdens, tax equalization considerations, are deemed to be sufficient to require individually determined rates. In accordance with state law, the Municipality also may provide for reasonable subclassifications for rates, described by an NAICS sector, subsector, or industry, that are based on particularized considerations as needed for economic stimulus or for the enhanced or disproportionate demands on municipal services or infrastructure.

Non-resident rates do not apply except where indicated.

8.1 NAICS 230000 – Contractors, Construction, All Types [Non-resident rates apply].

Resident rates, for contractors having a permanent place of business within the Municipality:

Minimum on first \$2,000.....	\$70.00 PLUS
Each additional \$1,000	\$2.00

Non-resident rates apply to contractors that do not have a permanent place of business within the Municipality. A trailer at the construction site or structure in which the contractor temporarily resides is not a permanent place of business under this ordinance.

No contractor shall be issued a business license until all state and municipal qualification examination and trade license requirements have been met. Each contractor shall post a sign in plain view on each job identifying the contractor with the job.

Sub-contractors shall be licensed on the same basis as general or prime contractors for the same job. No deductions shall be made by a general or prime contractor for value of work performed by a sub-contractor.

No contractor shall be issued a business license until all performance and indemnity bonds required by the Building Code have been filed and approved. Zoning permits must be obtained when required by the Zoning Ordinance.

Each prime contractor shall file with the License Official a list of sub-contractors furnishing labor or materials for each project.

For licenses issued on a per-job basis, the total tax for the full amount of the contract shall be paid prior to commencement of work and shall entitle the contractor to complete the job without regard to the normal license

expiration date. An amended report shall be filed for each new job and the appropriate additional license fee per \$1,000 of the contract amount shall be paid prior to commencement of new work. Only one base tax shall be paid in a license year. Licensees holding a per-job license shall file, by each April 30 during the continuation of the construction project, a statement of compliance, including but not limited to a revised estimate of the value of the contract. If any revised estimate of the final value of such project exceeds the amount for which the business license was issued, the licensee shall be required to pay a license fee at the then-prevailing rate on the excess amount.

8.2 NAICS 482 – Railroad Companies (See S.C. Code § 12-23-210).

8.3 NAICS ~~517311, 517312~~ 517111, 517112, 517122 – Telephone Companies.

With respect to “retail telecommunications services” as defined in S. C. Code § 58-9-2200, the Municipality participates in a collections program administered by the Municipal Association of South Carolina. The Municipality has approved participation in the collections program by separate ordinance (the “Telecommunications Collections Ordinance”). The rates, terms, conditions, dates, penalties, appeals process, and other details of the business license applicable to retail telecommunications services are set forth in the Telecommunications Collections Ordinance.

8.4 NAICS 5241 – Insurance Companies.

Independent agents, brokers, their employees are subject to a business license tax based on their natural class. With respect to insurers subject to license fees and taxes under Chapter 7 of Title 38 and to brokers under Chapter 45 of Title 38, the Municipality participates in a collections program administered by the Municipal Association of South Carolina. The Municipality has approved participation in the collections program by separate ordinance (the “Insurers and Brokers Collections Ordinance”). The rates, terms, conditions, dates, penalties, appeals process, and other details of the business license applicable to insurers and brokers are set forth in the Insurers and Brokers Collections Ordinance.

8.51 NAICS 713120 – Amusement Machines, coin operated (except gambling).

Music machines, juke boxes, kiddy rides, video games, pin tables with levers, and other amusement machines with or without free play feature licensed by SC Department of Revenue pursuant to S.C. Code §12-21-2720(A)(1) and (A)(2) [Type I and Type II].

For operation of all machines (not on gross income), pursuant to S.C. Code §12-21-2746:

Per Machine	\$12.50 PLUS
Business License.....	\$12.50

Distributors that sell or lease machines and are not licensed by the state as an operator pursuant to §12-21-2728 are not subject to Subclass 8.51.

8.52 NAICS 713290 – Amusement Machines, coin operated, non-payout.

Amusement machines of the non-payout type or in-line pin game licensed by SC Department of Revenue pursuant to S.C. Code §12-21-2720(A)(3) [Type III].

For operation of all machines (not on gross income), pursuant to S.C. Code §12-21-2720(B):

Per Machine	\$180.00 PLUS
Business License.....	\$12.50

Distributors that sell or lease machines and are not licensed by the state as an operator pursuant to §12-21-2728 are not subject to Subclass 8.52.

8.6 ~~NAICS 713990 – Billiard or Pool Rooms, all types~~ NAICS Code Varies – Billiard or Pool Tables.

~~(A) Pursuant to SC Code § 12-21-2746, license tax of \$5.00 per table measuring less than 3½ feet wide and 7 feet long, and \$12.50 per table longer than that; PLUS, (B) with respect to gross income from the entire business in addition to the tax authorized by state law for each table:~~

A business that offers the use of billiard or pool tables shall be subject to business license taxation under its natural class for all gross income of the business excluding the gross income attributable to the billiard or pool tables. In addition, the billiard or pool tables shall require their own separate business licenses pursuant to SC Code § 12-21-2746 and shall be subject to a license tax of \$5.00 per table measuring less than 3½ feet wide and 7 feet long, and \$12.50 per table longer than that.

Per Machine.....\$12.50

9.91 NAICS 722511 – Full Service Restaurant.

Resident rates, for full service restaurants, bars, lounges, cabarets - Serving Alcohol (Alcoholic beverages consumed on premises):

Minimum on first \$2,000.....\$360.00 PLUS
~~Each additional 1,000~~ Per \$1,000, or fraction, over \$2,000\$3.30

9.94 NAICS 721199 – All Other Traveler Accommodations, Short-term Rentals.

Resident rates for all other traveler accommodations including the renting of a room or rooms on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis including short-term residential rental properties:

Minimum on first \$2,000.....\$60.00 PLUS
~~Each additional 1,000~~ Per \$1,000, or fraction, over \$2,000 \$1.90

9.96 Street Vendors, City Sponsored Festivals and Events.

Non-contractual, temporary booths, tables or stands pre-approved and organized by the City’s recreation department:

Flat rate per festival or event.....\$10.00

APPENDIX B

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48 - 49	Transportation and warehousing	1
51	Information	4
52	Finance and insurance	7
53	Real estate and rental and leasing	7
54	Professional, scientific, and technical services	5
55	Management of companies	7
56	Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	3
61	Educational services	3
62	Health care and social assistance	4
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