

ORDINANCE NO. 15-06-22

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LYFORD, TEXAS, REGULATING THE USE OF VIDEO CAMERAS DURING CITY MEETINGS, INCLUDING SPECIAL MEETINGS, REGULAR COMMISSION MEETINGS AND ANY OTHER MEETING SO DESIGNATED BY THE MAYOR; PROVIDING A PENALTY OF NOT LESS THAN \$25.00 NOR MORE THAN \$200.00 (per incident); PROVIDING A REPEALER CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SEVERANCE CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Commissioners have determined that unregulated recording and videotaping at city meetings can be disruptive and unnecessarily interfere with the official duties of the mayor and commissioners; and,

WHEREAS, the City Commissioners have determined that in order to provide for recording and videotaping to be conducted in an efficient and non-disruptive manner, the below regulations should be instituted for all such meetings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF LYFORD:

SECTION 1.

DEFINITIONS.

- (1) Meetings. Any regular or special commission meeting including but not limited to workshops, budget meetings, or many meeting called by the mayor and scheduled at the city hall at a specific time.
- (2) Recording Device. Any device that has the capacity to make a digital audio or video recording. This includes any device including cell phones, I-pads, tape recorders, voice recorders or any other device designed to record by audio or video means.

SECTION 2.

RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF RECORDING DEVICES

It shall be unlawful for any person to use any recording device in any meeting as defined above without first:

1. Notifying and signing in with the City Secretary

2. Recording from an area inside the meeting room that is has not been designated as the area for recording.
3. To set up and record after any such meeting has begun.

SECTION 3.

ENFORCEMENT

The police chief will be advised of any violation and will immediately remove the offender from the premises.

PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE

Any person violating the terms of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction be deemed guilty of a Class C Misdemeanor and shall be fined not less than ten dollars (\$25.00 nor more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) (per incident) plus any applicable court costs.

SECTION 4.

REPEALER CLAUSE

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 5.

SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

It is hereby declared the intention of the City of Lyford that 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, such unconstitutional or invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs or sections of this Ordinance since the same would have been enacted by the City Commissioners without the incorporation in this Ordinance of any such unconstitutional or invalid phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section.

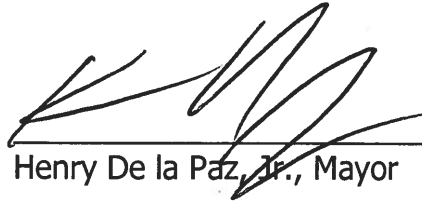
SECTION 6.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall be effective upon its passage and adoption by the City Council Commissioners and the publication of the caption of this Ordinance as required by law.

PASSED ON FIRST READING ON THIS THE 22ND DAY OF JUNE, 2015.

CITY OF LYFORD



Henry De la Paz, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:



City Secretary