

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-4

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES

The City Council of the City of Watkins hereby ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. TITLE XI. BUSINESS REGULATIONS. Chapter 114. Cannabis and Hemp Businesses. Section 114.12 and 114.13 of the Code of Ordinances are hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 114.12 PROHIBITED SALES AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS.

(A) **In general.** In addition to the prohibitions and restrictions set forth under Minn. Stat. § 342.46, subd. 7, and Minn. Stat. § 342.27, subd. 12 no registered cannabis retailer, lower-potency hemp edible retailer, or medical cannabis combination business shall sell or offer to sell any approved product or medical cannabinoid product:

(1) **By means of any type of vending machine.**

(2) **By means of self-service display.** All approved products and medical cannabinoid products, other than lower-potency hemp beverages, must be stored in a locked case behind the sales counter, in a storage unit, or in another area not freely accessible by the general public. This does not prohibit registered cannabis retailers from displaying single product samples pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 342.27, subd. 5.

(3) **By means of a drive through window.**

(4) **At a moveable place of business.** Only fixed location businesses may sell approved products and medical cannabinoid products.

(5) **That does not comply with the packaging and labeling required** under Minn. Stat. §§ 342.62 and 342.63 as may be amended from time to time.

(6) **By means of delivery sales.** All sales of approved products and medical cannabinoid products must be conducted in person, in a registered retail establishment, in over-the-counter sales transactions.

This does not prohibit sale of medical cannabinoid products by medical cannabis combination businesses by curbside pick-up as allowed in Minn. Stat. § 342.51, subd. 5.

(7) **By any other means, to any other person, or in any other manner or form prohibited** by state or other local law, ordinance provision, or other regulation.

(B) **Occupancy.** No cannabis or hemp business shall occupy a residential dwelling unit.

(C) **Legal age.** No person shall sell any approved product to any person under the age of 21. Businesses licensed or endorsed to sell medical cannabinoid products may sell medical cannabinoid products to persons under age 21 who are enrolled in the medical registry program pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 342.24, subd. 1.

- (D) **Age verification.** Before any sale of approved products, the registered retail establishment must verify by means of government-issued photographic identification containing the bearer's date of birth that the purchaser is at least twenty-one (21) years of age.
- (E) **Signage.** Notice of the legal sales age, age verification requirement, and possible penalties for underage sales must be posted prominently and in plain view at all times at each location where approved products are offered for sale. The required signage must be posted in a manner that is clearly visible to anyone who is, or is considering, making a purchase.
- (F) **Cannabis retailer distance restrictions.**
- (1) No registered cannabis retail business may be located within 1,000 feet of a school as measured by the shortest line from the property line of the space to be occupied by the proposed retail establishment to the nearest property line of a school.
 - (2) No registered cannabis retail business may be located within 500 feet of a day care, residential treatment facility, or an attraction within a public park that is regularly used by minors, including a playground or athletic field, as measured by the shortest line from the property line of the space to be occupied by the proposed retail establishment to the nearest property line of a daycare, residential treatment facility, or attraction within a public park that is regularly used by minors.
- (G) **Cannabis retailer hours of operation.** Sales of approved products at a registered cannabis retail business are only allowed between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. seven days per week and may not be open to the public or sell any other products at times when the business is prohibited from selling approved products.
- (J) **Instructional program.** Registered retail establishments must ensure that all salesclerks complete a training program on the legal requirements related to the sale of approved products or medical cannabinoid products, and the possible consequences of registration or license violations. Registered retail establishments must maintain documentation demonstrating their compliance and must provide this documentation to the City at the time of renewal, or whenever requested to do so during the registration term.
- (K) **Minimum clerk age.** Individuals employed by a registered retail establishment and medical cannabis combination business must be at least 18 years of age to sell approved products and medical cannabinoid products.
- (L) **Samples prohibited.** No samples of any approved products or medical cannabinoid products may be distributed free of charge or at a nominal cost. The distribution of approved products or medical cannabinoid products as a free donation is prohibited.
- (M) **Smoking prohibited.** Smoking is prohibited within the indoor area of any registered retail establishment.
- (N) **On-site consumption prohibited** On-site consumption is prohibited at lower-potency hemp edible retail and cannabis retail businesses, except for lower-potency hemp products that are consumed as a beverage at an on-sale liquor establishment that has an on-site consumption endorsement.

- (O) **Sale of other products.** Registered cannabis retail businesses and medical cannabis combination businesses are limited to selling only the products allowed under Minn. Stat. § 342.27 subd. 3 as amended from time to time. The sale of any products other than approved products by registered retailers must comport with all requirements of state law.
- (P) **Advertising restrictions.** Registered retail establishments must follow all advertisement restrictions pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 342.64, as amended from time to time.
- (Q) **Products that are attractive to underage persons.** No person shall sell or offer for sale any approved products and medical cannabinoid products that are attractive to underage persons.
- (R) **Coupon and price promotion.** No registered retail establishment may accept or redeem any coupon, price promotion, or other instrument or mechanism, whether in paper, digital, electronic, mobile, or any other form, that provides any approved products to a consumer at no cost or at a price that is less than the non-discounted, standard price listed by a retailer on the item or on any shelving, posting, advertising, or display at the location where the item is sold or offered for sale, including all applicable taxes.
- (S) **Potency and amount per sale transaction.**
 - (1) Registered cannabis retail businesses may sell or offer for sale approved products that comply with potency limits in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 342.27, subd. 2, c, d, and e, as amended from time to time.
 - (2) Lower-potency hemp edible retailers may sell or offer for sale lower-potency hemp edible products that comply with potency limits in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 342.46, subd. 6, as amended from time to time.

§ 114.13 TEMPORARY CANNABIS EVENTS.

- (A) No cannabis event will be permitted on public property or in a public park. Temporary cannabis events shall only be held in the M-1 Industrial District.
- (B) No sales of approved products, except that sales of lower-potency hemp edible products are allowed at temporary cannabis events.
- (C) No on-site consumption of approved products is allowed at temporary cannabis events.

Section 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its passage and publication according to law.

Section 3. Summary Publication. At least four-fifths (4/5) of all the members of the City Council direct the Clerk to publish only the title and summary of this Ordinance as follows: “An Ordinance Amending the City Code of Ordinances. Amendments to Chapter 114 Cannabis and Hemp Businesses, Section 114.12 Prohibited Sales and Other Restrictions, Section 114.13 Temporary Cannabis Events.”

Publication of the title and summary of Ordinance No. 2025-4, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES, clearly informs the public of the Ordinance’s intent and effect.

A printed copy of the ordinance is available for inspection by any person during regular office hours at City Hall. A copy of the entire text of the Ordinance shall be posted at Watkins City Hall, 111 Central Avenue South, Watkins MN.

ADOPTED BY THE WATKINS CITY COUNCIL THIS 13TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2025.

ATTEST: (SEAL)

Christopher Rowan, Mayor

Debra Kramer, City Clerk