

**ORDINANCE NO. 175-23**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 541 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MEDINA, OHIO, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 541.11, RELATIVE TO PROHIBITING CAMPING UPON PUBLIC PROPERTY.**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MEDINA, OHIO:**

**SEC. 1:** That Section 541 of the codified ordinances of the City of Medina, Ohio, shall be amended by the addition of a new Section 541.11 which reads as follows:

**541.11 PROHIBITING CAMPING UPON PUBLIC PROPERTY**

- (A) Except as may be permitted within municipal parks by the Parks and Recreation Director or the Service Director, or his or her designee, or as otherwise provided in division (C) of this section, it is unlawful to camp upon any public property owned by the city, including, without limitation, streets, sidewalks, easements, parks, parking lots, public grounds or right-of-ways.
- (B) As used in this section, TO CAMP means setting up, remaining in, or at property for the purpose of: sleeping, making preparation to sleep, storing personal property, and/or performing cooking activities for habitation purposes.
- (C) This section shall not apply to persons who:
  - (1) Have no alternative lodging available to them, and are otherwise homeless, and
  - (2) Have insufficient resources to secure alternative lodging, and
  - (3) Are unable to secure free services such as shelters within a reasonable proximity to the city, or hotel/motel vouchers which are or have been made available.
- (D) Whoever violates this section is guilty of “illegal public camping.” Except as otherwise provided, “illegal public camping” is a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If the offender previously has been convicted of, or pleaded guilty to “illegal public camping” then the violation is a misdemeanor of the first degree.

**SEC. 2:** That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with the law.

**SEC. 3:** That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect at the earliest period allowed by law.

**PASSED:**     October 23, 2023

**SIGNED:**     James A. Shields  
                  President of Council Pro-Tem

**ATTEST:**     Kathy Patton  
                  Clerk of Council

**APPROVED:**   October 24, 2023

**SIGNED:**     John M. Coyne, III  
                  Acting Mayor