

**ORDINANCE NO. 260**

**AN ORDINANCE DISPERSING SEXUALLY ORIENTED BUSINESSES AND LIMITING THEM TO A SPECIFIED ZONING DISTRICT; PRESCRIBING DEFINITIONS OF SEXUALLY ORENTEED BUSINESSES; PROVIDING FOR LICENSING AND REGULATION OF SEXUALOLY ORIENTED BUSINESSES AND EMPLOYEES; PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS FOR SEXUALLY ORIENTED BUSINESSES.**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board finds that sexually oriented businesses are frequently used for unlawful sexual activities, including prostitution and sexual liaisons of a casual nature; and

**WHEREAS**, the concern over sexually transmitted diseases is a legitimate health concern of the Township which demands reasonable regulation of sexually oriented businesses in order to protect the health and well-being of the citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, licensing is a legitimate and reasonable means of accountability to ensure that operators of sexually oriented businesses comply with reasonable regulations and to ensure that operators do not knowingly allow their establishments to be used as places of illegal sexual activity or solicitation.

**WHEREAS**, there is a convincing documented evidence that sexually oriented businesses, because of their very nature, have a deleterious effect on both the existing businesses around them and the surrounding residential areas adjacent to them, causing increased crime and the downgrading of property values; and

**WHEREAS**, it is recognized that sexually oriented businesses, due to their nature, have serious objectionable characteristics, particularly when they are located in close proximity to each other, thereby contributing to urban blight and downgrading the quality of life in the adjacent area; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board desires to minimize and control these adverse effects and thereby protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizenry; protect citizens from increased crime; preserve quality of life; preserve the property values and character of surrounding neighborhoods and deter the spread of urban blight; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board had determined that locational criteria alone do not adequately protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of this Township; and

**WHEREAS**, it is not the intent of this ordinance so suppress any speech activities protected by the First Amendment, but to enact a content neutral ordinance which addresses the secondary effects of sexually oriented businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, it is not the intent of the Town Board to condone or legitimize the distribution of obscene material, and the Town Board recognizes that state and federal law prohibits the distribution of obscene materials and expects and encourages state law enforcement officials to enforce state obscenity statutes against any such illegal activities in the Township.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Township of Empire, Dakota County, Minnesota ordains as follows:

## **SECTION I. PURPOSE AND FINDINGS**

- A. **Purpose.** It is the purpose of this ordinance to regulate sexually oriented businesses in order to promote the health, safety, morals, and general welfare of the citizens of the Township, and to establish reasonable and uniform regulations to prevent the deleterious location and concentration of sexually oriented businesses within the Township. The provisions of this ordinance have neither the purpose nor effect of imposing a limitation or restriction on the content of any communicative materials, including sexually oriented materials. Similarly, it is neither the intent nor effect of this ordinance to restrict or deny access by adults to sexually oriented materials protected by the First Amendment, or to deny access by the distributors and exhibitors of sexually oriented entertainment to their intended market. Neither is it the intent nor effect of this ordinance to condone or legitimize the distribution of obscene material.
- B. **Findings.** Based on evidence concerning the adverse secondary effects of adult uses on the community presented in hearings and in reports made available to the Town Board, and on findings incorporated in the cases of *City of Renton v. Playtime Theatres Inc.*, 475 U.S. 41 (1986), *Young v. American Mini Theatres*, 426 U.W. 50 (1976), and *Northend Cenema, Inc. v. Seattle*, 585 P.2d 1153 (Wash. 1978), and on studies in other communities including, but not limited to, Phoenix, Arizona; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Houston, Texas; Indianapolis, Indiana; Amarillo, Texas; Los Angeles, California; Austin, Texas; Seattle, Washington; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and Beaumont, Texas; and also on findings found in the Report of Attorney General's working Group On the Regulation of Sexually Oriented Businesses, (June 5, 1989, State of Minnesota), the Council finds:
1. Sexually oriented businesses in the Township lend themselves to ancillary unlawful and unhealthy activities that are presently uncontrolled by the operators of the establishments. Further, there is presently no mechanism to make the owners of these establishments responsible for the activities that occur on their premises.
  2. Certain employees of sexually oriented businesses defined in this ordinance as adult theatres and cabarets engage in higher incidence of certain types of sexually oriented behavior at these businesses than employees of other establishments.
  3. Sexual acts, including masturbation, oral and anal sex, occur at sexually oriented businesses, especially those which provide private or semi-private booths or cubicles for viewing films, videos, or live sex shows, as defined under this ordinance as adult book stores, adult novelty shops, adult video stores, adult motion picture theatres, or adult arcades.
  4. Offering and providing such space encourages such activities, which create unhealthy conditions.

5. Persons frequent certain adult theatres, adult arcades, and other sexually oriented businesses for the purpose of engaging in sex within the premises of such sexually oriented businesses.
6. At least 50 communicable diseases may be spread by activities occurring in sexually oriented businesses, including, but not limited to, syphilis, gonorrhea, human immunodeficiency virus infection (AIDS), genital herpes, hepatitis B., Non A, Non B amebiasis, salmonella infections and shigella infections.
7. Since 1981 and to the present there has been an increasing cumulative number of reported cases of AIDS caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in the United States – 600 in 1982, 2,200 in 1983, 4,600 in 1984, 8,555 in 1985 and 253,448 through December 31, 1992.
8. The number of cases of early (less than one year) syphilis in the United States reported annually has risen, with 33,613 cases reported in 1982 and 45,200 through November of 1990.
9. The number of cases of gonorrhea in the United States reported annually remains at a high level, with over one-half million cases being reported in 1990.
10. The surgeon general of the United States in his report of October 22, 1985, has advised the American public that AIDS and HIV infection may be transmitted through sexual contact, intravenous drug abuse, exposure to infected blood and blood components, and from an infected mother to her newborn.
11. According to the best scientific evidence, AIDS and HIV infection, as well as syphilis and gonorrhea, are principally transmitted by sexual acts.
12. Sanitary conditions in some sexually oriented businesses are unhealthy, in part, because the activities conducted there are unhealthy, and, in part, because of the unregulated nature of the activities and the failure of the owners and the operators of the facilities to self-regulate those activities and maintain those facilities.
13. Numerous studies and reports have determined that semen is found in the areas of sexually oriented businesses where persons view “adult” oriented films.
14. The findings noted in paragraphs number 1 through 13 raise substantial governmental concerns.
15. Sexually oriented businesses have operational characteristics which should be reasonably regulated in order to protect those substantial governmental concerns.
16. A reasonable licensing procedure is an appropriate mechanism to place the burden of that reasonable regulation on the owners and the operators of the sexually oriented businesses. Further, such a licensing procedure will place a heretofore nonexistent incentive on the operators to see that the sexually oriented business is run in a manner

consistent with the health, safety and welfare of its patrons and employees, as well as the citizens of the Township. It is appropriate to require reasonable assurances that the licensee is the actual operator of the sexually oriented business, fully in possession and control of the premises and activities occurring therein.

17. Removal of doors on adult booths and requiring sufficient lighting on premises with adult booths advances a substantial government interest in curbing the illegal and unsanitary sexual activity occurring in adult theatres.
18. Requiring licensees of sexually oriented businesses to keep information regarding current employees and certain past employees will help reduce the incidence of certain types of criminal behavior by facilitating the identification of potential witnesses or suspects and by preventing minors from working in such establishments.
19. The disclosure of certain information by those persons ultimately responsible for the day-to-day operation and maintenance of the sexually oriented businesses, where such information is substantially related to the significant governmental interest in the operation of such uses, will aid in preventing the spread of sexually transmitted diseases.
20. It is desirable in the prevention of the spread of communicable diseases to obtain a limited amount of information regarding certain employees who may engage in the conduct which this ordinance is designed to prevent or who are likely to be witnesses to such activity.
21. The fact that an applicant for an adult use license has been convicted of a sexually related crime leads to the rational assumption that the applicant is likely to engage in that conduct in contravention of this ordinance.
22. The barring of such individuals from the management of adult uses for a period of years serves as a deterrent to and prevents conduct which leads to the transmission of sexually transmitted diseases.
23. The general welfare, health, and safety of the citizens of the Township will be promoted by the enactment of this ordinance.

## **SECTION II. DEFINITIONS**

A. For the purposes of this ordinance, certain words or phrases cited shall have the following meaning:

**ADULT ARCADE** means any place to which the public is permitted or invited wherein coin-operated, slug-operated, or for any form of consideration, or electronically, electrically, or mechanically controlled still or motion picture machines, projectors, video or laser disc players, or other image-producing devices are maintained to show images to five or fewer persons per machine at any one time, and where the images so displayed are distinguished or characterized by the depicting or describing of “specified sexual activities” or “specified anatomical areas.”

**ADULT BOOKSTORE, ADULT NOVELTY STORE OR ADULT VIDEO STORE** means a commercial establishment which, as one of its principal purposes, offers for sale or rental for any form of consideration any one or more of the following:

- a) books, magazines, periodicals or other printed matter, or photographs, films, motion picture, video cassettes or video reproductions, slides or other visual representations which are characterized by the depiction or description of “specified sexual activities” or “specified anatomical areas”; or
- b) instruments, devices, or paraphernalia which are designed for use in connection with “specified sexual activities.”

A commercial establishment may have other principal business purposes that do not involve the offering for sale or rental of material depicting or describing “specified sexual activities” or “specified anatomical areas” and still be categorized as ADULT BOOKSTORE, ADULT NOVELTY STORE, or ADULT VIDEO STORE. Such other business purposes will not serve to exempt such commercial establishments from being categorized as an ADULT BOOKSTORE, ADULT NOVELTY STORE, or ADULT VIDEO STORE so long as one of its principal business purposes is the offering for sale or rental for consideration the specified materials which are characterized by the depiction or description of “specified sexual activities” or “specified anatomical areas.”

**ADUL CABARET** means a nightclub, bar, restaurant, or similar commercial establishment which regularly features: persons who appear in a state of nudity or semi-nude, or live performances which are characterized by the exposure of “specified anatomical areas” or by “specified sexual activities”,. Or films, motion pictures, video cassettes, slides or other photographic reproductions which are characterized by the depiction or description of “specified sexual activities” or “specified anatomical areas”, and has a sign visible from the public right of way which advertises the availability of this adult type of photographic reproductions; or

**ADULT MOTEL** means a hotel, motel or similar commercial establishment which:

- a) offers accommodations to the public for any form of consideration; provides patrons with closed-circuit television transmissions, films, motion pictures, video cassettes, slides, or other photographic reproductions which are characterized by the depiction or description of “specified sexual activities” or “specified anatomical areas”; and has a sign visible from the public right of way which advertises the availability of this adult type of photographic reproductions; or
- b) offers a sleeping room for rent for a period of time that is less than ten (10) hours; or
- c) allows a tenant or occupant of a sleeping room to subrent the room for a period of time that is less than ten (10) hours.

**ADULT MOTION PICTURE THEATER** means a commercial establishment where, for any form of consideration, films, motion pictures, video cassettes, slides, or similar photographic reproductions are regularly shown which are characterized by the depiction or description of “specified sexual activities” or “Specified anatomical areas.”

**ADULT THEATER** means a theater, concern hall, auditorium, or similar commercial establishment which regularly features persons who appear in a state of nudity or semi-nude, or

live performances which are characterized by the exposure of “specified anatomical areas” or by “specified sexual activities.”

**EMPLOYEE** means a person who performs any service on the premises of a sexually oriented business on a full-time, part-time or contract basis, whether or not the person is designated an employee, independent contractor, agent or otherwise whether or not said person is paid a salary, wage or other compensation by the operator of said business. Employee does not include a person exclusively on the premises for repair or maintenance of the premises or equipment on the premises, or for the delivery of goods to the premises.

**ESCORT** means a person who, for consideration, agrees or offers to act as a companion, guide, or date for another person, or who agrees or offers to privately model lingerie or to privately perform a striptease for another person.

**ESCORT AGENCY** means a person or business association who furnishes, offers to furnish or advertises to furnish escorts as one of its primary business purposes for a fee, tip, or other consideration.

**ESTABLISHMENT** means and includes any of the following:

- a) the opening or commencement of any sexually oriented business as a new business;
- b) the conversion of an existing business, whether or not a sexually oriented business, to any sexually oriented business;
- c) the additions of any sexually oriented business to any other existing sexually oriented business; or
- d) the relocation of any sexually oriented business.

**LICENSEE** means a person in whose name a license to operate a sexually oriented business has been issued, as well as the individual listed as an applicant on the application for a license; and in the case of an employee, a person in whose name a license has been issued authorizing employment in a sexually oriented business.

**NUDE MODEL STUDIO** means any place where a person who appears semi-nude, in a state of nudity, or who displays “specified anatomical areas” and is provided to be observed, sketched, drawn, painted, sculptured, photographed, or similarly depicted by other persons who pay money or any form of consideration. Nude Model Studio shall not include a proprietary school licensed by the State of Minnesota or a college, junior college or university supported entirely or in part by public taxation; a private college or university which maintains and operates educational programs in which credits are transferable to a college, junior college, or university supported entirely or partly by taxation; or in a structure:

- a) that has no sign visible from the exterior of the structure and no other advertising that indicates a nude or semi-nude person is available for viewing; and
- b) where in order to participate in a class a student must enroll at least three days in advance of the class; and
- c) where no more than one nude or semi-nude model is on the premises at any one time.

**NUDITY or a STATE OF NUDITY** means the showing of the human male or female genitals, pubic area, vulva, anus, anal cleft or cleavage with less than a fully opaque covering, the showing

of the female breast with less than a fully opaque covering of any part of the nipple, or the showing of the covered male genitals in a discernible turgid state.

**PERSON** means an individual, proprietorship, partnership, corporation, association, or other legal entity.

**SEMI-NUDE or in a SEMI-NUDE CONDITION** means the showing of the female breast below a horizontal line across the top of the areola at its highest point or the showing of the male or female rear of the body which lies between two imaginary lines running parallel to the ground when a person is standing, the first or top of such line drawn at the top of the cleavage of the nates and second or bottom line drawn at the lowest visible point of the cleavage or the lowest point of the curvature of the fleshy protuberance, whichever is lower, and between two imaginary lines on each side of the body, which lines are perpendicular to the ground and to the horizontal lines described above, and which perpendicular lines are drawn through the point at which each nate meets the outer side of each leg. This definition shall include the entire lower portion of the human female breast, but shall not include any portion of the cleavage of the human female breast, exhibited by a dress, blouse, skirt, leotard, bathing suit, or other wearing apparel provided the areola is not exposed in whole or in part.

**SEXUALLY ENCOUNTER CENTER** means a business or commercial enterprise that, as one of its principal business purposes, offers for any form of consideration;

- a) physical contact in the form of wrestling or tumbling between persons of the opposite sex; or
- b) less than completely and opaquely covered human genitals, pubic region, buttocks or a female breast below a point immediately above the top of the areola.

**SEXUALLY ORIENTED BUSINESS** means an adult arcade, adult bookstore, adult novelty store, adult video store, adult cabaret, adult motel, adult motion picture theater, adult theater, escort agency nude model studio, or sexual encounter center.

**SPECIFIED ANATOMICAL AREAS** means:

- a) the human male genitals in a discernibly turgid state, even if completely and opaquely covered; or
- b) less than completely and opaquely covered human genitals, pubic region, buttocks or a female breast below a point immediately above the top of the areola.

**SPECIFIED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY** means any of the following offenses;

- a) prostitution or promotion of prostitution; dissemination of obscenity; sale, distribution or display of harmful material to a minor; sexual performance by a child; possession or distribution of child pornography; public lewdness; indecent exposure; indecency with a child; engaging in organized criminal activity; sexual assault; molestation of a child; gambling; or distribution of a controlled substance; or any similar offenses to those described above under the criminal or penal code of other states or countries;
- b) for which:
  - 1) less than two years have elapsed since the date of conviction or the date of relapse from confinement imposed for the conviction, whichever is the later date, if the conviction is of a misdemeanor offense; or

- 2) less than five years have elapsed since the date of conviction or the date of release from confinement for the conviction, whichever is the later date, if the conviction is of a felony offense: or
- 3) less than five years have elapsed since the date of the last conviction or the date of release from the confinement for the last conviction, whichever is the later date, if the convictions are of two or more misdemeanor offenses or combination of misdemeanor offenses occurring within ay 24-month period.
- c) the fact that a conviction is being appealed shall have no effect on the disqualification of the applicant or a person residing with the applicant.

**SPECIFIED SEXUAL ACTIVITYS** means any of the following:

- a) the fondling or other erotic touching of human genitals, pubic region, buttocks, anus or female breasts;
- b) the transfer of securities which constitute a controlling interest in the business, whether by sale, exchange, or similar means; or
- c) the establishment of a trust, gift, or other similar legal device which transfers the ownership or control of the business, except for transfer by bequest or other operation of law upon the death of the person possessing the ownership or control.

### **SECTION III CLASSIFICATION**

Sexually oriented businesses are classified as follows:

- 1) adult arcades
- 2) adult bookstores, adult novelty stores, or adult video stores;
- 3) adult cabarets;
- 4) adult motels;
- 5) adult motion picture theaters;
- 6) adult theaters;
- 7) escort agencies;
- 8) nude model studios; and
- 9) sexual encounter centers.

### **SECTION IV. LICENSE REQUIRED**

A) It is unlawful:

1. For any person to operate a sexually oriented business without a valid sexually oriented business license issued by the Township pursuant to this ordinance.
2. For any person who operates a sexually oriented business who is not licensed as a sexually oriented business employee by the Township pursuant to this ordinance.
3. For any person to obtain employment with a sexually oriented business without having secured a sexually oriented business employee license pursuant to this ordinance.

B) An application for a license must be made on a form provided by the Township.

C) All applicants must be qualified according to the provisions of this ordinance. The application may request and the applicant shall provide such information (including fingerprints) as to enable the Township to determine whether the applicant meets the qualifications established in this ordinance.

- D) If a person who wishes to operate a sexually oriented business is an individual, the person must sign the application for a license as applicant. If a person who wishes to operate a sexually oriented business is other than an individual who has a 20 percent or greater interest in the business must sign the application for a license as applicant. Each applicant must be qualified under the following Section and each applicant shall be considered a licensee if a license is granted.
- E) The completed application for a sexually oriented business license shall contain the following information and shall be accompanied by the following documents.
1. If the applicant is:
    - (a) an individual, the individual shall state his/her legal name and any aliases and submit proof the he/she is eighteen years of age;
    - (b) A partnership, the partnership shall state its complete name, and the names of all partners, whether the partnership is general or limited, and a copy of the partnership; agreement, if any;
    - (c) A corporation, the corporation shall state its complete name, the date of its incorporation, evidence that the corporation is in good standing under the laws of its state of incorporation, the names and capacity of all officers, directors and principal stockholders, and the name of the registered corporate agent and the address of the registered office for service of process.
  2. If the applicant intends to operate the sexually oriented business under a name other than that of the applicant; he or she must state 1) the sexually oriented business's fictitious name and 2) submit the required registration documents.
  3. Whether the applicant, or a person residing with the applicant, has been convicted of a specified criminal activity as defined in this ordinance, and if so, the specified criminal activity involved, the date, place, and jurisdiction of each.
  4. Whether the applicant, or a person residing with the applicant, has had a previous license under this ordinance or other similar sexually oriented business ordinances from another city or county denied, suspended or revoked, including the name and location of the sexually oriented business for which the permit was denied, suspended or revoked, as well as the date of denial, suspension or revocation, and whether the applicant or a person residing with the applicant has been a partner in a partnership or an officer, director or principal stockholder of a corporation that is licensed under this ordinance whose license has previously been denied, suspended or revoked, including the name and location of the sexually oriented business for which the permit was denied, suspended or revoked as well as the date of denial, suspension or revocation.
  5. Whether the applicant or a person residing with the applicant holds any other licenses under this ordinance or other similar sexually oriented business ordinance from another city or county and, if so, the names and locations of such other licensed businesses.
  6. The single classification of license of which the applicant is filing.

7. The location of the proposed sexually oriented business, including a legal description of the property, street address, and telephone number(s), if any.
  8. The applicant's mailing address and residential address.
  9. A recent photograph of the applicant(s).
  10. The applicant's driver's permit number, Social Security number, and/or his/her state or federally issued tax identification number.
  11. A sketch or diagram showing the configuration of the premises, including a statement of total floor space occupied by the business. The sketch or diagram need not be professionally prepared, but it must be drawn to a designated scale or drawn with marked dimensions of the interior of the premises to an accuracy of plus or minus six (6) inches.
  12. A current certificate and straight-line drawing prepared within thirty (30) days prior to application by a registered land surveyor depicting the property lines and the structures containing any existing sexually oriented businesses within 1,000 feet of the property to be certified; the property lines of any established religious institution/synagogue, school, or public park or recreation area within 1,000 feet of the property to be certified. For purposes of the Section, a use shall be considered existing or established if it is in existence at the time an application is submitted.
  13. If an applicant wishes to operate a sexually oriented business, other than an adult motel, which shall exhibit on the premises, in a viewing room or booth of less than one hundred fifty (150) square of floor space, films, video cassettes, other video reproductions, or live entertainment which depict specified sexual activities or specified anatomical areas then the applicant shall comply with the application requirements set forth in Section IV.
- F) Before any applicant may be issued a sexually oriented business employee license, the applicant shall submit on a form to be provided by the Township the following information:
1. The applicant's name or any other name (including "stage" names) or aliases used by the individual;
  2. Age, Date, and place of birth;
  3. Height, weight, hair and eye color;
  4. Present residence address and telephone number;
  5. Present business address and telephone number;
  6. Date, issuing state and number of driver's permit or other identification card information;
  7. Social Security number; and
  8. Proof that the individual is at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- G) Attached to the application form for a sexually oriented business employee license as provided above, shall be the following:

1. A color photograph of the applicant clearly showing the applicant's face, and the applicant's fingerprints on a form provided by the police department. Any fees for the photographs and fingerprints shall be paid by the applicant.
2. A statement detailing the license history of the applicant for the five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the filing of the application, including whether such applicant previously operated or is seeking to operate, in this or any other county, city, state, or country has ever had a license, permit, or authorization to do business denied, revoked, or suspended, or had any professional or vocational license or permit denied, revoked or suspended. In the event of any such denial, revocation, or suspension, state the name, the name of the issuing or denying jurisdiction, and describe in full the reason for the denial, revocation, or suspension. A copy of any order of denial, revocation, or suspension shall be attached to the application.
3. A statement whether the applicant has been convicted of a specified criminal activity as defined in this ordinance and, if so, the specified criminal activity involved, the date, place and jurisdiction of each.

H. No alcoholic beverages may be served or allowed on the premises of a sexually oriented business.

## **SECTION V. ISSUANCE OF LICENSE**

- A) Upon the filing of said application for a sexually oriented business employee license, the Township shall issue a temporary license to said applicant. The application shall then be referred to the appropriate Township staff for an investigation to be made on such information as is contained on the application. The application process shall be completed with thirty (30) days from the date of the completed application is filed. After the investigation, the Township shall issue a license, unless it is determined by a preponderance of the evidence that one or more of the following findings is true:
1. The applicant has failed to provide information reasonable necessary for issuance of the license or has falsely answered a question or request for information on the application form;
  2. The applicant is under the age of eighteen (18) years;
  3. The applicant has been convicted of a "specified criminal activity" as defined in this ordinance;
  4. The sexually oriented business employee license is to be used for employment in a business prohibited by local or state law, statute, rule or regulation, or prohibited by a particular provisions of this ordinance; or
  5. The applicant has had a sexually oriented business employee license revoked by the township within two (2) years of the date of the current application. If the sexually oriented business employee license is denied, the temporary license previously issued is immediately deemed null and void. Denial, suspension, or revocation of a license issued pursuant to this subsection shall be subject to appeal as set forth in Section X.

- B) A license granted pursuant to this section shall be subject to annual renewal upon the written application of the applicant and a find by the Township that the applicant has not been convicted of any specified criminal activity as defined in this ordinance or committed any act during the existence of the previous license, which would be grounds to deny the initial license application. The renewal of the license shall be subject to the payment of the fee as set forth in Section VI.
- C) Within 30 days after receipt of a completed sexually oriented business application, the Township shall approve or deny the issuance of a license to an applicant. The Township shall approve the issuance of a license to an applicant unless it is determined by a preponderance of the evidence that one or more of the following findings is true:
6. An applicant is under eighteen (18) years of age;
  7. An applicant or a person with whom applicant is residing is overdue in payment to the Township of taxes, fees, fines, or penalties assessed against or imposed upon him/her in relation to any business;
  8. An applicant has failed to provide information reasonably necessary for issuance of the license or has falsely answered a question or request for information on the application form;
  9. An applicant or a person with whom the applicant is residing has been denied a license by the Township to operate a sexually oriented business within the preceding twelve (12) months of whose license to operate a sexually oriented business has been revoked within the preceding twelve (12) months;
  10. An applicant or a person with whom the applicant is residing has been convicted of a specified criminal activity defined in this ordinance;
  11. The premises to be used for the sexually oriented business have not been approved by the health department, fire department, and the building official as being in compliance with applicable laws and ordinance;
  12. The license fee required by this ordinance has not been paid;
  13. An applicant of the proposed establishment is in violation of or is not in compliance with any of the provisions of this ordinance.
- D) The license, if granted shall state on its face the name of the person or persons to whom it is granted, the expiration date, the address of the sexually oriented business and the classification for which the license is issued pursuant to Section III. All licenses shall be posted in a conspicuous place at or near the entrance to the sexually oriented business so that they may be easily read at any time.
- E) The health department, fire department, and the building official shall complete their certification that the premises is in compliance or not in compliance within twenty (20) days of receipt of the application by the Township.
- F) A sexually oriented business license shall issue for only one classification as found in Section III.

**SECTION VI. FEES**

- A) Every application for a sexually oriented business license (whether for a new license or for renewal of an existing license) shall be accompanied by a non-refundable application and investigation fee.
- B) In addition to the application and investigation fee required above, every sexually oriented business that is granted a license (new or renewal) shall pay to the Township an annual non-refundable license fee with 30 days of license issuance or renewal.
- C) Every application for a sexually oriented business employee license (whether for a new license or for renewal of an existing license) shall be accompanied by an annual non-refundable application, investigation and license fee.
- D) All license applications and fees shall be submitted to the Clerk of the Township.
- E) All fees are established by resolution of the Town Board.

**SECTION VII. INSPECTION**

- A) An applicant or licensee shall permit representatives of the Police Department, Health Department, Fire Department, Zoning Department, or other Township departments or agencies to inspect the premises of a sexually oriented business for the purpose of insuring compliance with the law, at any time it is occupied or open for business.
- B) A person who operates a sexually oriented business or his agent or employee commits a misdemeanor if he refuses to permit such lawful inspection of the premises at any time it is occupied or open for business.

**SECTION VIII. EXPIRATION OF LICENSE**

- A) Each license shall expire one year from the date of issuance and may be renewed only by making application as provided in Section IV. Application for renewal shall be made at least thirty (30) days before the expiration date, and when made less than thirty (30) days before the expiration date, the expiration of the license will not be affected.
- B) When the Township denies renewal of a license, the applicant shall not be issued a license for one year from the date of denial. If, subsequent to denial, the Township finds that the basis for denial of the renewal license has been corrected or abated, the applicant may be granted a license if at least ninety (90) days have elapsed since the date denial became final.

**SECTION IX. SUSPENSION**

The Township shall suspend a license for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days if it determines that a licensee or an employee of a licensee has;

- 14. violated or is not in compliance with any section of this ordinance;

15. refused to allow an inspection of the sexually oriented business premises as authorized by this chapter; or
16. knowingly permitted gambling by any person on the sexually oriented business premises.

**SECTION X. REVOCATION**

- A) The Township shall revoke a license if a cause of suspension in Section IX occurs and the license has been suspended within the preceding twelve (12) months.
- B) The Township shall revoke a license if it determines that:
  1. a licensee gave false or misleading information in the material submitted during the application process;
  2. a licensee had knowingly allowed possession, use, or sale of controlled substances on the premises.
  3. a licensee has knowingly allowed prostitution on the premises;
  4. a licensee knowingly operated the sexually oriented business during a period of time when the licensee’s license was suspended;
  5. except in the case of an adult motel, a licensee has knowingly allowed any act of sexual intercourse, sodomy, oral copulation, masturbation, or the sex act to occur in or on the licensed premises; or
  6. a licensee is delinquent in payment to the Township, County, or State for any taxes or fees past due.
- C) When the township revokes a license, the revocation shall continue for one (1) year, and the licensee shall not be issued a sexually oriented license for one (1) year from the date the revocation became effective. If, subsequent to revocation, the Township finds that the basis for the revocation has been corrected or abated, the applicant may be granted a license if at least ninety (90) days have elapsed since the date the revocation became effective.
- D) After denial of an application, or denial of a renewal of an application, or suspension or revocation of any license, the applicant or licensee may seek prompt judicial review of such administrative action in any court of competent jurisdiction. The administrative action shall be promptly reviewed by the court.

**SECTION XI. TRANSFER OF LICENSE**

A licensee shall not transfer his/her license to another, nor shall a licensee operate a sexually oriented business under the authority of a license at any place other than the address designated in the application.

**SECTION IX. LOCATION OF SEXUALLY ORIENTED BUSINESSES**

- A) A person commits a misdemeanor if that person operates or causes to be operated a sexually oriented business in any zoning district other than commercial, as defined and described in the Empire zoning ordinance.

- B) A person commits an offense if the person operates or causes to be operated a sexually oriented business with 300 feet of:
1. A church, synagogue, mosque, temple or building which is used primarily for religious worship and related religious activities;
  2. A public or private educational facility including but not limited to child day care facilities, nursery schools, preschools, kindergartens, elementary schools, private schools, intermediate schools, junior high schools, middle schools, high schools, vocational schools, secondary schools, continuation schools, special education schools, junior colleges, and universities, school includes the school grounds, but does not include the facilities use primarily or another purpose and only incidentally as a school;
  3. A boundary of a residential district as defined in the Empire zoning ordinance; a public park or recreational area which has been designated for park or recreational activities including but not limited to a park, playground, nature trails, swimming pool, reservoir, athletic field, basketball or tennis courts, pedestrian/bicycle paths, wilderness areas, or other similar public land within the city which is under the control, operation, or management of the city park and recreation authorities;
  4. The property line of a lot devoted to a residential use as defined in the Empire zoning ordinance;
  5. An entertainment business which is oriented primarily towards children or family entertainment; or
  6. A licensed premises, licensed pursuant to the alcoholic beverage control regulations of the State of Minnesota.
- C) A person commits a misdemeanor if that person causes or permits the operation, establishment, substantial enlargement, or transfer of ownership or control of a sexually oriented business within 1,000 feet of another sexually oriented business.
- D) A person commits a misdemeanor if that person causes or permits the operation, establishment or maintenance of more than one sexually oriented business in the same building, structure, or portion thereof, or the increase of floor area of any sexually oriented business in any building, structure, or portion thereof containing another sexually oriented business.
- E) For the purpose of subsection B of this Section, measurement shall be made in a straight line, without regard to the intervening structures or objects, from the nearest portion of the building or structure used as the part of there premises where a sexually oriented business is conducted, to the nearest property line of the premises of a use listed in subsection B. Presence of a city, county or other political subdivision boundary shall be irrelevant for purposes of calculating and applying the distance requirements of this Section.

**SECTION IX. ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS FOR ADULT MOTELS**

- A) Evidence that a sleeping room in a hotel, motel, or a similar commercial establishment has been rented and vacated two or more times in a period of time that is less than ten

(10) hours creates a refutable presumption that the establishment is an adult motel as that term is defined in this ordinance.

- B) A person commits a misdemeanor if, as the person in control of a sleeping room in a hotel, motel, or similar commercial establishment that does not have a sexually oriented license, he rents or subagent a sleeping room to a person and, within ten (10) hours from the time the room is rented, he rents or subagents the same sleeping room again.
- C) For purposes of subsection (B) of this section, the terms “rent” or “subrent” mean the act of permitting a room to be occupied for any form of consideration.

**SECTION IV. REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO EXHIBITION OF SEXUALLY EXPLICIT FILMS, VIDEOS OR LIVE ENTERTAINMENT IN VIEWING ROOMS**

- A) a person who operates or causes to be operated sexually oriented business, other than an adult motel, which exhibits on the premises in a viewing room of less than one hundred fifty (150) square feet of floor space, a film, video cassette, live entertainment, or other video reproduction which depicts specified sexual activities or specified anatomical areas, shall comply with the following requirements:
  - 1. Upon application for a sexually oriented license, the application shall be accompanied by a diagram of the premises showing a plan thereof specifying the location of one or more manager’s stations and the location of all overhead lighting fixtures and designating any portion of the premises in which patrons will not be permitted. A manager’s station may not exceed thirty-two (32) square feet of floor area. The diagram shall also designate the place at which the permit will be conspicuously posted, if granted. A professionally prepared diagram in the nature of an engineer’s or architect’s blueprint shall not be required; however, each diagram should be oriented to the north or to some designated street or object and should be drawn to a designated scale or with marked dimensions sufficient to show the various internal dimensions of all areas of interior of the premises to an accuracy of plus or minus six (6”) inches. The Township may waive the foregoing diagram for renewal applications if the applicant adopts a diagram that was previously submitted and certifies that the configuration of the premises has not been altered since it was prepared.
  - 2. The application shall be sworn to be true and correct by the applicant.
  - 3. No alteration in the configuration or location of a manager’s station may be made without the prior approval of the Township.
  - 4. It is the duty of the licensee of the premises to ensure that at least one licensed employee is on duty and situated in each manager’s station at all times that any patron is present inside the premises.
  - 5. The interior of the premises shall be configured in such a manner that there is an unobstructed view from a manager’s station of every area of the premises to which any patron is permitted access for any purpose excluding restrooms. Restrooms may not contain video reproduction equipment. If the premises has two or more manager’s stations designated, then the interior of the premises shall be configured in such a manner that there is an unobstructed view of each area of the premises to which any patron is permitted access for any purpose from at least one of the managers stations.

The view required in this subsection must be by direct line of sight from the manager's station.

6. It shall be the duty of the licensees to ensure that the view area specified in subsection (5) remains unobstructed by any doors, curtains, partitions, walls, merchandise, display racks or other materials and, at all times, to ensure that no patron is permitted access to any area of the premises which has been designated as an area in which patrons will not be permitted in the application filed pursuant to subsection (1) of this Section.
7. No viewing room may be occupied by more than one person at any time.
8. The premises shall be equipped with overhead lighting fixtures of sufficient intensity to illuminate every place to which patrons are permitted access at an illumination of not less than 5.0 foot-candle as measured at the floor level.
9. It shall be the duty of the licensees to ensure that the illumination described above is maintained at all times that any patron is present in the premises.
10. No licensee shall allow openings of any kind to exist between viewing rooms or booths.
11. No person shall make or attempt to make an opening of any kind between viewing booths or rooms.
12. The licensee shall, during each business day, regularly inspect the walls between the viewing booths to determine if any openings or holes exist.
13. The licensee shall cause all floor coverings in viewing booths to be nonporous, easily cleanable surfaces, with no rugs or carpeting.
14. The licensee shall cause all wall surfaces and ceiling surfaces in viewing booths to be constructed of, or permanently covered by, nonporous, easily cleanable material. No wood, plywood, composition board or other porous material shall be used within forty eight (48") inches of the floor.

- B) A person having a duty under Subsection (1) through (14) of Subsection (A) above commits a misdemeanor if he or she knowingly fails to fulfill that duty.

#### **SECTION XV. ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS FOR ESCORT AGENCIES**

- A) an escort agency shall not employ any person under the age of 18 years.
- B) A person commits an offense if the person acts as an escort or agrees to act as an escort for any person under the age of 18 years.

#### **SECTION XVI. ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS FOR NUDE MODEL STUDIOS**

- A) A nude model studio shall not employ any person under the age of 18 years.
- B) A person under the age of 18 years commits an offense if the person appears semi nude or in a state of nudity in or on the premises of a nude model studio. It is a defense to prosecution under this subsection if the person under 18 years was in a restroom not open to public view or visible to any other person.

- C) A person commits an offense if the person appears in a state of nudity, or knowingly allows another to appear in a state of nudity in an area of nude model studio premises which can be viewed from the public right of way.
- D) A nude model studio shall not place or permit a bed, sofa, or mattress in any room on the premises, except that a sofa may be placed in a reception room open to the public.

**SECTION XVII. ADDITIONAL REGULATION CONCERNING PUBLIC NUDITY.**

- A) It shall be a misdemeanor for a person who knowingly and intentional, in a sexually oriented business, appears in a state of nudity or depicts specified sexual activities.
- B) It shall be a misdemeanor for a person who knowingly or intentionally in a sexually oriented business appears in a semi-nude condition unless the person is an employee who, while semi-nude, shall be at least ten (10') feet from any patron or customer and on a stage at least two feet from the floor.
- C) It shall be a misdemeanor for an employee , while semi-nude in a sexually oriented business, to solicit any pay or gratuity from any patron or customer or for any patron or customer to pay or give any gratuity to any employee, while said employee is semi-nude in a sexually oriented business.

**SECTION XVIII. PROHIBITION AGAINST CHILDREN IN A SEXUALLY ORIENTED BUSINESS.**

- A) a person commits a misdemeanor if the person knowingly allows a person under the age of 18 years on the premises of a sexually oriented business.

**SECTION XIX. HOURS OF OPERATION**

No sexually oriented business, except for an adult motel, may remain open at any time between the hours of one o'clock (1:00) A.M. and six o'clock (6:00) A.M. on weekdays and Saturdays, and one o'clock (1:00)A.M. and ten o'clock (10:00)A.M. on Sundays.

**SECTION XX. EXEMPTIONS**

- A) It is a defense to prosecution under Section XVII that a person appearing in a state of nudity did so in a modeling class operated:
  1. by a proprietary school, licensed by the State of Minnesota; a college, junior college, or university supported entirely or partly by taxation;
  2. by a private college or university which maintains and operates educational programs in which credits are transferable to a college, junior college or university supported entirely or partly by taxation; or
  3. in a structure:
    - a) which has no sign visible from the exterior of the structure and no other advertising that indicates a nude person is available for viewing; and

- b) where, in order to participate in a class a student must enroll at least three (3) days in advance of the class; and
- c) where, no more than one nude model is on the premises at any one time.

**SECTION XXI. INJUNCTION**

A person who operates or causes to be operated a sexually oriented business without a valid license or in violation of Section XII of this ordinance is subject to a suit for injunction as well as prosecution for criminal violations. Such violations shall be punishable as a misdemeanor. Each day a sexually oriented business so operates is a separate offense or violation.

**SECTION XXII. SEVERABILITY**

If any section, subsection, or clause of this ordinance shall be deemed to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the remaining sections, subsections and clauses shall not be affected.

**SECTION XXIII. CONFLICTING ORDINANCES REPEALED**

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

**SECTION XXIV. EFFECTIVE DATE**

This ordinance shall be enforced from and after May 25, 1995.