

ORDINANCE NO. 26-O-11

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CRYSTAL RIVER, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 11 OF THE CITY OF CRYSTAL RIVER CODE OF ORDINANCES, ENTITLED “LICENSES AND BUSINESS REGULATIONS”, REVISING ARTICLE I. “IN GENERAL” TO CLARIFY REQUIREMENTS FOR LOCAL BUSINESS TAX RECEIPTS; REVISE REQUIREMENTS FOR OUT-OF-TOWN BUSINESSES TRANSACTING BUSINESS WITHIN THE CITY; CLARIFY DEMARCATION FOR COMMERCIAL WATER-BASED BUSINESSES AND VESSELS; ESTABLISH REQUIREMENTS FOR CITY-ISSUED COMMERCIAL WATER-BASED BUSINESS DECALS; REVISE NOTICE REQUIREMENTS FOR LOCAL BUSINESS TAXES AND VIOLATIONS; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Chapter 205, Florida Statutes, authorizes municipalities to levy and impose local business taxes upon businesses, professions, and occupations operating within their jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Crystal River, Florida, levies local business taxes pursuant to Chapter 11 of the City of Crystal River Code of Ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Crystal River finds it necessary and appropriate to clarify the requirements for obtaining and maintaining a Local Business Tax Receipt, including requiring applicants to provide evidence of applicable federal, state, and local licenses, permits, registrations, certifications, and other approvals required by law for the type of business being conducted; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it necessary to clarify the registration requirements applicable to businesses that do not maintain a permanent business or branch office within the City of Crystal River but transact business or engage in an occupation within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it necessary to establish clear identification and demarcation requirements, including establishing a City-issued Commercial Water-Based Business decal requirement, for commercial motorized and nonmotorized vessels operating within City waters in order to facilitate identification of commercial water-based businesses and promote compliance with applicable City regulations; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it necessary to modernize and clarify the methods by which the City may provide notice regarding local business taxes, delinquencies, and violations, including electronic, physical, and in-person communication; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Crystal River, Florida, has determined that the adoption of this Ordinance is in the best interests of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Crystal River.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CRYSTAL RIVER, FLORIDA, THAT THE CITY OF CRYSTAL RIVER, FLORIDA CODE OF ORDINANCES IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Ordinance is to amend Chapter 11, Article I, of the City of Crystal River Code of Ordinances to clarify Local Business Tax Receipt requirements; establish requirements for businesses operating within the City that do not maintain a permanent business or branch office within the City; clarify identification and demarcation requirements applicable to commercial water-based businesses and vessels; establish a City-issued Commercial Water-Based Business decal requirement; and revise the methods by which the City provides notice concerning local business taxes, delinquencies, and violations.

SECTION 2. AUTHORITY

The City of Crystal River City Council is authorized to amend the City of Crystal River Code of Ordinances pursuant to Article III of the City Charter of the City of Crystal River, Chapter 205, Florida Statutes, Part II, Code of Ordinances, Chapter 1, General Provisions, of the City of Crystal River Code of Ordinances, and as otherwise authorized by applicable Florida law.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT OF THE CITY OF CRYSTAL RIVER CODE OF ORDINANCES

The City Council of the City of Crystal River, Florida, hereby adopts this Ordinance by amending Chapter 11, Article I, of the City of Crystal River Code of Ordinances, as shown in Exhibit "A," attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 4. REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES

All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. CODIFICATION

It is the intention of the City Council of the City of Crystal River, Florida, and it is hereby ordained that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the codified version of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Crystal River. The City Manager, in conjunction with the City Clerk and the City Attorney, are hereby granted the authority to take any and all necessary and appropriate actions to accomplish the provisions of this Section. The Exhibits to this Ordinance are hereby incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth herein verbatim.

SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY

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 or invalid by the valid judgment or decree of a court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon approval on second reading by City Council and signature of the Mayor.

APPROVED after due public notice and public hearing on the _____ day of _____, 2026.

ATTEST:

CITY OF CRYSTAL RIVER:

MIA FINK, CITY CLERK

JOE MEEK, MAYOR

Approved as to form for the
Reliance of the City of Crystal River
only:

Robert W. Batsel, Jr., City Attorney

VOTE OF COUNCIL:

Joe Meek _____
Robert Holmes _____
Mindi Hastings _____
Chris Ensing _____
Gabrielle Satchell _____