

## **Title 7 Chapter 3**

### **Alcohol Control**

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#### **Sec. 7-3-1 Title/Purpose**

The title of this chapter is Alcohol Control. The purpose of this chapter is for the Town to regulate by license, license issuance, suspension, and revocation, penalties, or other specific actions at or near any alcohol beverage retail locations in the Town.

#### **Sec. 7-3-2 Authority**

The Town Board of the Town of Arlington has the authority under s. 125.10, Wis. Stats., and under its Village Powers under § 60.10, § 60.22 and § 61.34, Wis. Stats., to regulate the sale at retail or wholesale of alcoholic beverages at premises locations in the Town, to the extent that Town regulations are not in conflict with State Statute, specifically including the regulation of underage and intoxicated persons at alcohol beverage retail sale licensed premises in the Town and the issuance, renewal, revocation, suspension and regulation of alcohol retail sale or wholesale sale, licenses, or permittees, along with the penalties for violations of this chapter.

#### **Sec 7-3-3 Definitions**

- (A) “Alcohol beverages” means fermented malt beverages, wine, and intoxicating liquor.
- (B) “Controlled substance” means a drug, substance, or immediate precursor included in Schedules I to V of Subchapter II in Chapter 961, Wis. Stats.
- (C) “Fermented malt beverage” means any beverage made by the alcohol fermentation of an infusion in potable water of barley malt and hops, with or without unmalted grains or decorticated and degerminated grains or sugar containing 0.5% or more of alcohol by volume.
- (D) “Intoxicated person” means a person whose mental or physical functioning is substantially impaired as a result of the use of alcohol.

- (E) “Intoxicating liquor” means all ardent, spiritous, distilled, or vinous liquors, liquids, or compounds, whether medicated, proprietary, patented or not, and by whatever name called, containing 0.5% or more of alcohol by volume, which are beverages, but does not include ‘fermented malt beverages’ which contain less than 5% of alcohol by weight.
- (F) “Legal drinking age” means 21 years of age.
- (G) “License” means an authorization to sell alcohol retail or wholesale beverages issued by the Town Board or its agent under this Ordinance.
- (H) “Licensee” means any person issued a license under this Ordinance and Chapter 125, Wis. Stats., by the Town.
- (I) “Permit” means any permit issued by the Town under this Ordinance.
- (J) “Permittee” means any person issued a permit by the Town under this Ordinance.
- (K) “Person” means a natural person, sole proprietorship, partnership, limited liability, company, corporation, or association or the owner of a single-owner entity that is disregarded as a separate entity under Chapter 71, Wis. Stats.
- (L) “Premises” means the area described in a license or permit.
- (M) “Regulation” means any rule or ordinance adopted by a municipal governing body.
- (N) “Retailer” or “retail” means any person who sells, or offers for sale, any alcohol beverages in the Town to any person other than a person holding a permit or a license under this chapter.
- (O) “Sell,” “sold,” “sale,” or “selling” means any transfer of alcohol beverages with consideration or any transfer without consideration if knowingly made for purposes of evading the law relating to the sale of alcohol beverages or any shift, device, scheme, or transaction for obtaining alcohol beverages, including the solicitation of orders for, or the sale for future delivery of, alcohol beverages.
- (P) “Soft drink” means any liquid capable of being used for beverage purposes containing any degree of alcohol less than one-half of one percent by volume.
- (Q) “Tavern” means any place in which fermented malt beverages or intoxicating liquor are sold for consumption upon said premises.
- (R) “Town” means the Town of Arlington, Columbia County, Wisconsin.
- (S) “Town board” means the board of supervisors for the Town of Arlington, Columbia County, Wisconsin and includes designees of the board authorized to act for the board.

(T) “Town clerk” means the clerk of the Town of Arlington, Columbia County, Wisconsin.

(U) “Under the influence” means not only all the well-known and easily recognized conditions and degrees of intoxication, but any abnormal mental or physical condition that is the result of indulging to any degree in alcohol beverages and that tends to deprive a person of the clearness of intellect and control of himself or herself that he or she would otherwise possess.

(V) “Underage person” means a person who has not attained the legal drinking age.

(W) “Wis. Stats.” means the Wisconsin Statutes, including successor provisions to cited statutes.

(X) “Wholesale” or “wholesaler” means a person, other than a brewer, manufacturer, or rectifier, who sells alcohol beverages to a licensed retailer in the Town or to another person who holds a permit or license to sell alcohol beverages in the Town at wholesale.

(Y) “Wine” means products obtained from the normal alcohol fermentation of the juice or must of sound, ripe grapes, other fruits, or other agricultural products, imitation wine, and compounds sold as wine, vermouth, cider, perry, mead, and sake, if such products contain 0.5% or more of alcohol by volume.

#### **Sec. 7-3-4 Hearing Process**

(A) Disciplinary Action. In the event any alcohol beverage retail or wholesale sale licensed or permitted party violates this Ordinance or Chapter 125, Wis. Stats, the Town Board may take disciplinary action, including reprimand, permit or license suspension for a specified number of days, up to 90 days, or permit or license revocation. Any license or permit that has been revoked shall not be reinstated within the following 12 months. Any disciplinary action taken shall follow notice to the licensee or permittee prior to a hearing in accordance with Subsection B. The hearing notice shall include the reason for the hearing. The hearing decision of the board, shall be sent by first class mail to the licensee’s last known address, or personally served at the town chairperson’s option.

(B) Procedure. In the event disciplinary action is taken against an alcohol beverage retail sale or wholesale licensee or permittee, the procedure mandated under s. 125.12, Wis. Stats., or its successor, will be followed.

(C) No Refund. There shall be no refund of any alcohol beverage retail or wholesale sale license or permit fee paid to a party whose license is revoked under this Ordinance.

(D) Surrender of License. In lieu of a hearing, the Town Board may accept surrender of the alcohol beverage retail or wholesale sale license or permit and the board shall then determine the time period before another application for the same type of license or permit will be accepted from the former licensee or permittee.

(E) Open Session. Evidence and testimony at the hearing shall be given in open session. The Town Clerk shall post or arrange to post the hearing notice or publish in a format acceptable to the Town chairperson.

(F) Reimbursement. Unless no disciplinary action, including reprimand or probation, is ordered by the Town Board, the alcohol retail sale or wholesale licensee or permittee shall reimburse the Town for costs of personal service, mailing, fax costs, copies, and any per diem paid for a Town Officer to attend the hearing or other meeting due to a license violation. Unpaid costs assessed under this subsection shall accrue interest at the rate of 5% per annum if unpaid after 30 days. Payment shall be required before any future alcohol retail or wholesale sale licensee or permittee is issued or reinstated to the license or permit holder.

### **Sec. 7-3-5 Compliance Conditions**

(A) Sale of Alcohol. It shall be unlawful for any person to sell or keep for sale at wholesale or retail, or permit to be sold or kept for sale at wholesale or retail, within the Town any alcohol beverage or soft drink, except in strict accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance and State law. Any license or permit issued to any person under this Ordinance and Chapter 125, Wis. Stats., shall be contingent upon full compliance with this Ordinance by the licensee or permittee. Any building or place where alcohol beverages or alcohol is sold, possessed, stored, brewed, bottled, manufactured, or rectified without a valid permit or license issued under this Ordinance or Chapter 125 or 139, Wis. Stats., or where persons are permitted to drink alcohol beverages in violation of this chapter is a public nuisance and may be closed until the activity in violation of this Ordinance is abated. When the activity is abated, the building or place may be used for any lawful purpose.

(B) Sobriety. It shall be unlawful for the licensee, permittee, or any employee, operator, or manager of a tavern or other licensed or permitted establishment to be under the influence of an intoxicant, or a controlled substance or a combination of an intoxicant and a controlled substance while performing services on the licensed or permitted premises of the Town.

(C) Prohibition from Premises. It is unlawful for any person, including any owner, tenant, employee, operator, or manager of a tavern, who has engaged in violent, abusive, indecent, profane, boisterous, unreasonably loud, or otherwise disorderly conduct in a Town tavern premises under circumstances in which such conduct tends to cause or provoke a disturbance and who has been ordered by the Town Board or law enforcement officer not to enter or to remain in a tavern or other licensed or permitted establishment to so enter or remain during any period after having been ordered not to enter or remain by a law enforcement officer. An order prohibiting entry under this subsection may prohibit entry for a period up to 6 months.

(D) Continued Operation. As a condition of maintaining and keeping an alcohol beverage retail sale license for a Tavern in the Town, any licensee of a Tavern

premise must stay open and continue in business and demonstrate business continuance satisfactory to the Town Board. Issuance or retention of a license by a party not open for business and not demonstrating business continuation is hereby declared by this Ordinance to be against public policy for the Town. A determination by the Town Board that a person is not demonstrating business continuation establishes grounds for suspension or revocation of the alcohol beverage retail sale license. The Town Board shall issue a summons and set a hearing to determine whether the license shall be suspended or revoked under this subsection. The hearing shall be held not later than 30 days after it is issued. The Town Board may make its decision effective on a later date, in its discretion. The procedure for the hearing shall be in accordance with s. 125.12, Wis. Stats. Testimony of any party, any eviction notice, court documentation, or other valid evidence of such actions may be presented. All testimony shall be under oath. A person who was licensed or permitted for the tavern premises for an alcohol beverage retail tavern is not demonstrating business continuation if any of the following is demonstrated:

- (1) The person has not done business in the tavern premises for at least 30 consecutive days.
- (2) The person has voluntarily vacated the premises more than 15 days before the hearing held under this subsection.
- (3) The person was ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction to vacate the premises at least 15 days before the hearing held under this subsection.

(E) Moral Character shall not be denied on the grounds that the applicant lacks good moral character, unless there is evidence that the applicant would, if granted an initial or renewed license or permit, pose a threat to the safety or welfare of patrons of the licensed or permitted establishment in which he or she would be employed. The following will be considered grounds for a determination that an applicant, licensee, or permittee lacks good moral character:

- (1) Suspension or revocation of a Class A, Class B, Operator's, or Manager's License under Chapter 125, Wis. Stats., or this Ordinance, or dismissal from a bartending job if all of the following apply:
  - (a) There is a relationship between the reasons for the suspension, revocation, or dismissal and the applicant's ability to competently tend bar without endangering the safety or welfare of the patrons of such bar.
  - (b) The suspension, revocation, or dismissal occurred within a year of the date of the application, or there has been more than one such suspension, revocation, or dismissal within 3 years of the date of the application.
- (2) Conduct exhibiting the use, within 3 years of the date of the application, of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances, to an extent or

in a manner dangerous to any other person, or to an extent that such use would impair his or her ability to competently tend the Tavern business.

(3) Criminal violations including any one of the following:

(a) The applicant, licensee, or permittee has habitually been a law offender or has been convicted of a felony and the circumstances of the crime or crimes substantially relate to the circumstances of the permitted or licensed activity, unless the person has been duly pardoned.

(b) The applicant, licensee, or permittee is subject to a pending criminal charge and the circumstances of the charge substantially relate to the circumstances of the permitted or licensed activity.

(c) The applicant, licensee, or permittee has been convicted of one or more of the following:

(i) Manufacturing, distributing or delivering a controlled substance or controlled substance analog under s. 961.41 (1), Wis. Stats.

(ii) Possessing, with intent to manufacture, distribute or deliver, a controlled substance or controlled substance analog under s. 961.41 (1m), Wis. Stats.

(iii) Possessing, with intent to manufacture, distribute or deliver, or manufacturing, distributing or delivering a controlled substance or controlled substance analog under a federal law that is substantially similar to s. 961.41 (1) or (1m), Wis. Stats.

(iv) Possessing, with intent to manufacture, distribute or deliver, or manufacturing, distributing or delivering a controlled substance or controlled substance analog under the law of another state that is substantially similar to s. 961.41 (1) or (1m), Wis. Stats.

(4) If any Town Committee, or local law enforcement recommends to the Town Board denial of an Operator's License or Manager License or other license or permit on the basis provided herein, the applicant shall be given the opportunity to present evidence of rehabilitation. Such evidence may include, but is not limited to, letters of recommendation, evidence of family stability or educational advancement, satisfactory work performed, professional counseling, and participation in community activities.

(5) If a license or permit is denied by the Town Board, the applicant shall have the right to file an appeal with the Town Clerk within 30 days of the date of the decision, and to appear and be represented by legal counsel before the Town Board, to be heard, to present evidence in favor of the granting of the license or permit and to rebut the evidence presented in opposition to the

granting of the license or permit. The hearing on the appeal shall be held within 40 days of the filing of the appeal. Notice of the time and place of the hearing on the appeal shall be mailed by the Town Clerk to the applicant by certified mail at least 10 days before the date of the hearing. The Town Board shall, after the hearing, comply with Chapter 125 by providing in writing the reasons for its decision to grant or not grant a license or permit. The Town Board shall comply with s. 125.12 Wis. Stats in the denial, revocation, suspension, or non-renewal of a license or permit.

(F) Inspection. It shall be a condition of any license or permit issued under this Ordinance that the licensed or permitted premises, delivery vehicles, and any of the business books of account, bank statements, billings, invoices, and any other documents relating specifically to the licensed or permitted business may be entered and inspected at any reasonable hour by any law enforcement officer of the Town without any warrant, and application for a license or permit hereunder shall be deemed a consent to this provision. Any refusal to permit such inspection shall automatically operate as a revocation of any license or permit issued hereunder and shall be deemed a violation of this subsection.

(G) Issuance. No licenses or permits shall be granted under this Ordinance or under Chapter 125, Wis. Stats., unless the Town Board shall by a vote of the majority of the members of the Town Board have authorized the issuance of the permit or ordinance. The Town Board shall meet not later than May 15 of each year and be in session from day to day thereafter, so long as it may be necessary for the purpose of action upon applications for licenses and permits as may be presented to them on or before April 15 and all applications for licenses so filed shall be granted or denied not later than June 15 for the ensuing license year.

### **Sec. 7-3-6 Underage and Intoxicated Persons/Disorderly House/After Hours**

(A) Sale of Alcohol Beverages to Underage Persons; Restrictions.

(1) No person may procure for, sell, dispense, or give away any alcohol beverages to any underage person not accompanied by his or her parent, guardian, or spouse who has attained the legal drinking age.

(2) No licensee or permittee may sell, vend, deal, or traffic in alcohol beverages to or with any underage person not accompanied by his or her parent, guardian, or spouse who has attained the legal drinking age.

(3) No adult may knowingly permit or fail to take action to prevent the illegal consumption of alcohol beverages by an underage person on premises owned by the adult or under the adult's control. This paragraph does not apply to alcohol beverages used exclusively as part of a religious service.

(B) Intoxicated Persons.

- (1) No person may procure for, sell, dispense, or give away alcohol beverages to an intoxicated person.
  - (2) No license or permittee may sell, vend, deal, or traffic in alcohol beverages to or with an intoxicated person.
  - (3) No licensee or permittee may permit an intoxicated person to be on a licensed or permittee premise.
- (C) Disorderly House. No licensee or permittee in charge and control of a licensed or permitted premises shall keep or maintain a disorderly or riotous, indecent, or improper tavern or licensed or permitted establishment.
- (D) After hours. No licensee or permittee shall permit any person from being present on the premise operated under a Class "A," "Class A," or "Class C" license or under a Class "B" or "Class B" license or permit during hours when the premises are not open for business unless these persons are performing job-related activities.
- (E) Unsanitary or Unsafe Conduct. No licensee or permittee in charge and control shall fail to keep or maintain a tavern or other licensed or permitted premise in a sanitary and safe condition after written notice by the Department of Health and Family Services or the Town Board.

#### **Sec. 7-3-7 Sale for Off-Premises Consumption**

As provided in Section 125.51(3) of the Wisconsin Statutes, any and all holders of a retail Class B liquor license within the Town of Arlington, Columbia County, Wisconsin may sell, deal and traffic in intoxicating liquors in the original package or containers, in multiples not to exceed four (4) liters at any one time, which liquor in such package or containers must be consumed off the premises so licensed.

#### **Sec. 7-3-8 Penalties**

- (A) Forfeiture. Except as otherwise provided, any person violating any provision of this Chapter shall be subject to a penalty as provided in Sec. 9-3-4 of this Code.
- (B) Suspension. The Town Board shall suspend any license or permit issued under this Ordinance to a person for:
- (1) Not more than 3 days, if a Court finds that the person committed a violation under this Ordinance within 12 months after committing one previous violation; or
  - (2) Not less than 3 days nor more than 10 days, if a Court finds that the person committed a violation under this Ordinance within 12 months after committing 2 other violations; or



(3) Not less than 15 days nor more than 30 days, if a Court finds that person committed the violation within 12 months after committing 3 other violations.

(C) Previous Violations. For purposes of determining whether or not a previous violation has occurred, if more than one violation occurs at the same time all those violations shall be counted as one violation.

(D) Compliance. Any person that fails to comply with the provisions of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction, pay a forfeiture, plus the applicable surcharges, assessments, and costs for each violation. Each day a violation exists or continues shall be considered a separate offense under this chapter. In addition, the Town Board may seek injunctive relief from a Court of record to enjoin further violations.