ORDINANCE NO. 1361-2023

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAHLEQUAH, OKLAHOMA, AMENDING PART 7, FINANCE AND TAXATION, CHAPTER 5, HOTEL/MOTEL TAX, BY AMENDING SECTION 7-504, USE OF FUNDS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION, SEVERABILTY, REPEALER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY The City Council of the City of Tahlequah, Oklahoma:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY. Chapter 5 of Part 7 of the Tahlequah City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 7-504 Use of Funds

All taxes collected pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall be set aside and used for the purpose of encouraging, promoting, fostering tourism and tourism development in the City, and the sums shall be applied as follows:

- 1. On August 5, 1987, and at the commencement of each fiscal year thereafter, the City will contract with the Tahlequah Area Chamber of Commerce whereby the Chamber of Commerce will act as the agent of the City, in the distribution and use of the funds to be appropriated by the City derived from the enactment of this chapter and in such endeavor the Chamber of Commerce shall be considered a quasi-governmental agency of the City. At the conclusion of the fiscal years, the Chamber of Commerce shall submit to the City Council a detailed account of the expenditures of all such funds disbursed as such agent of the City, and shall make an annual report of such disbursements, and at the appropriate date prior to the commencement of the fiscal year of the City, the Chamber of Commerce shall submit its budget proposal for the coming year wherein the budget request shall be made in conformity of meeting contractual requirements between the City and the Chamber of Commerce as its agent; and
- 2. Ninety-Seven percent (97%) of the net proceeds collected pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall be used for the promoting, solicitation and development of tourism within and for the City, including, but not limited to, contracting with external parties to achieve the same. Three Percent (3%) of the funds to be retained by the City to meet necessary administrative expenses of enforcement of this chapter.

SECTION 2. CODIFICATION. The City Clerk is hereby directed to enter the added section into the appropriate place in the Tahlequah City Code of Tahlequah, Oklahoma, as authorized and approved by this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY. If any provision, paragraph, word, section of article of this Ordinance is invalidated by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions, Paragraphs, words, sections and chapters shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION 4. REPEALER. All other Ordinances and parts of other Ordinances Inconsistent or conflicting with any part of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. It being necessary to preserve the public health, safety, welfare, and morals, this Ordinance shall take effect immediately after its publication as provided by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAHLEQUAH, OKLAHOMA, THIS 3RD DAY OF JULY, 2023.

Suzanne Myers, Mayor

OFTAR

City Clerk

Approved as to form and legality this 3rd day of July, 2023.

John Tyler Hammons, City Attorney

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