

TOWN OF WEYMOUTH

IN COUNCIL

ORDER NO. 26 065

APRIL 2, 2026

INTRODUCED: MAYOR

REVISION TO ORDINANCE – REGULATION OF CANVASSERS AND SOLICITORS

Upon request of his Honor, Mayor Molisse, the Town of Weymouth through the Weymouth Town Council, approved to amend the Town of Weymouth Code of Ordinances, Section 9-401, by deleting same in its entirety and in substitution thereof, insert the following:

§ 9-401 Regulation of canvassers and solicitors.

(a) Consent of owner and registration required; registration information.

1. It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the business as a canvasser or as a solicitor calling at residences without prior consent of the occupant for the purpose of soliciting orders, sales or business of any kind or seeking information or donations, without first Registering an application with the Weymouth Police Department.

2. The registrant shall complete and file a Canvassers and Solicitor's Registration Application, on each day they intend to solicit or canvass within town limits, with the Weymouth Police.

3. The registrant shall provide the following information:

- a. His/Her name, address, cell phone number and date of birth;
- b. His/Her signature;
- c. The name of his/her employer;
- d. The nature of the products or services in which they are soliciting;
- e. The names of the manufacturers of such products or the organization which they are representing; [Amended 6-20-2016 by Ord. No. 16-095]
- f. The proposed method of operation in the Town.

4. Upon approval, Solicitors and Canvassers must keep the approved Registration Application form with them at all times for each day they are conducting their activities within the town limits and the same shall be exhibited by such registrant whenever he/she is requested to do so by any police officer or by any person solicited.

5. No soliciting or canvassing is permitted after 6:00 PM within the town limits. All registrations expire at 6:00 PM on the day they are issued, regardless of the time of issuance.

(b) Definitions. As used in this section, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

SOLICITOR OR CANVASSER: Any person who, for himself or another person, firm or corporation, travels by foot, automobile or any other type of conveyance from place to place, from house to house or from street to street taking or attempting to lease or to take orders for retail sale of goods, wares, merchandise, services or donations, including without limitation selling, distributing, exposing for sale or soliciting orders for magazines, books, periodicals or other articles of a commercial nature, the contracting of all home improvements or for services to be performed in the future, whether or not such individual has, carries or exposes for retail sale a sample of the subject of such sale or whether he is collecting advance payment on such retail sales.

(c) Exceptions. This section should not be construed to prevent route salesmen or other persons having established customers to whom they make periodic deliveries from calling upon such customers.

(d) Non-applicability. The provisions of this section shall not apply to officers or employees of the Town, county, state or federal government, or any subdivision thereof, when on official business, or to a person soliciting solely for religious, charitable or political purposes; nor shall this section apply to neighborhood youth and students who solicit for the shoveling of snow or cutting of lawns.

(e) Revocation of registration. Any such registration may be revoked by the Mayor or the Chief of Police because of any violation by the registrant of this section or of any other ordinance of the Town or any state or federal law or whenever the registrant shall cease to possess the qualifications and character required in this section for the original registration.

(f) Misrepresentation prohibited. No solicitor or canvasser registered or exempted from registration may use any plan, scheme or ruse which misrepresents the true status or mission of the person making the visit in order to gain admission to a prospective buyer's home, office or other establishment with the purpose of making a sale of consumer goods or services.

(g) Penalties. Any person who commits an unlawful act, described in this section, or violates any of the provisions of this section or carries on the business after such person's registration has expired or has been revoked, shall be punished for each offense by a fine of not more than \$300 per offense.

Passed in Council – May 18, 2026
Presented to Mayor – May 21, 2026

Approved _____

5/21/2026
Date

A True Copy. Attest:

Lisa D. VanWinkle
Lisa D. VanWinkle, Town Clerk

[Signature]
Mayor

YEAS: Coughlin, DiFazio, Donovan, Happel, Heffernan, Rober Kelly, MacDougall, Mathews, Palazzo, Sherlock-Shangraw, Shinney

NAYS: Coughlin, DiFazio, Donovan, Happel, Heffernan, Rober Kelly, MacDougall, Mathews, Palazzo, Sherlock-Shangraw, Shinney

ABSENT: Rober Kelly