

# PROPOSED

**Ch. 229 – Peddling and Soliciting is hereby amended in its entirety as follows:**

SECTION 1 – PURPOSE

The purpose of this ordinance is to protect the privacy, safety, and welfare of residents of the Town of East Granby while preserving constitutionally protected rights of free speech, political activity, religious expression, and charitable outreach. This ordinance establishes reasonable regulations for commercial solicitation activities conducted door-to-door within the Town.

SECTION 2 – DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this ordinance:

- A. “Solicitor” means any person who goes from residence to residence for the purpose of selling goods or services, seeking orders, offering home improvement services, requesting subscriptions, or soliciting commercial transactions.
- B. “Peddler” means any person who carries or transports goods for immediate sale and delivery door-to-door.
- C. “Canvasser” means a person engaging in non-commercial advocacy, political activity, religious outreach, educational activity, or charitable outreach.
- D. “Residence” means any private dwelling unit occupied by one or more persons.
- E. “No Soliciting Notice” means any sign or notice posted by a resident indicating solicitors are not welcome.

SECTION 3 – REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT

- A. No solicitor or peddler shall engage in door-to-door solicitation within the Town without first registering with the East Granby First Selectman’s Office or designated municipal office.
- B. Applicants shall provide:
  - 1. Full legal name
  - 2. Permanent address
  - 3. Telephone number
  - 4. Name of company or organization represented

5. Nature of goods or services offered
6. Government-issued photo identification
7. Dates and hours during which solicitation will occur
8. Vehicle information, if applicable

C. The Town may conduct a reasonable background review for public safety purposes.

D. Upon approval, the Town shall issue a solicitor identification badge or permit which must be carried and displayed upon request.

E. Permit Fee

1. Each solicitor or peddler required to register under this ordinance shall pay a permit fee in accordance with the fee schedule set by the Board of Selectmen for an annual permit valid for one calendar year from the date of issuance.
2. A temporary permit valid for up to thirty (30) consecutive days may be issued for a fee in accordance with the fee schedule set by the Board of Selectmen.
3. No fee shall be charged to:
  - a. Political canvassers
  - b. Religious organizations
  - c. Registered nonprofit organizations
  - d. School-sponsored youth activities
  - e. Governmental entities
4. Permit fees shall be established to offset administrative and public safety costs associated with processing applications and enforcement of this ordinance.
5. The Board of Selectmen may revise permit fees periodically by resolution as permitted by law.

#### SECTION 4 – EXEMPTIONS

The following activities shall be exempt from the registration requirements of this ordinance:

- A. Political campaigning and candidate advocacy
- B. Religious proselytizing or religious outreach
- C. Charitable or nonprofit activities protected under state or federal law

D. School-sponsored youth fundraising activities

E. Census, governmental, or utility-related activities authorized by law

Exempt persons shall nevertheless comply with Sections 6 and 7 of this ordinance.

#### SECTION 5 – HOURS OF SOLICITATION

No door-to-door solicitation or peddling shall occur:

A. Before 9:00 a.m.

B. After 7:00 p.m.

C. On federally recognized holidays unless expressly invited by the resident

#### SECTION 6 – PROHIBITED CONDUCT

No person engaged in solicitation, peddling, or canvassing shall:

A. Enter or remain upon property where a “No Soliciting” or “No Trespassing” notice is posted

B. Use threatening, abusive, or deceptive conduct

C. Continue attempting contact after a resident declines interaction

D. Misrepresent the nature of their business, organization, or affiliation

E. Obstruct streets, sidewalks, or driveways

F. Create excessive noise or disturbance

#### SECTION 7 – DO NOT KNOCK REGISTRY

A. The Town may maintain a voluntary “Do Not Knock Registry” for residents wishing to prohibit commercial solicitation at their residences.

B. Registered addresses shall be made available to permitted solicitors.

C. Solicitors shall be prohibited from contacting residences listed on the registry.

D. Participation in the registry shall not prohibit political, religious, or constitutionally protected canvassing activities.

#### SECTION 8 – ENFORCEMENT

A. Any police officer, constable, or authorized municipal official may enforce the provisions of this ordinance.

B. Violations may result in:

1. Revocation of solicitor permit
2. Removal from Town property
3. Municipal citation or fine

C. Each separate residence contacted in violation of this ordinance may constitute a separate offense.

#### SECTION 9 – PENALTIES

Any person violating this ordinance shall be subject to:

- A. A written warning for a first offense
- B. A fine not exceeding \$100 for a second offense
- C. A fine not exceeding \$250 for subsequent offenses

#### SECTION 10 – SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this ordinance is found invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such finding shall not affect the remaining provisions of this ordinance.

#### SECTION 11 – EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after adoption in accordance with the Town Charter and applicable Connecticut General Statutes.