

**AN ORDINANCE TO DEFINE PUBLIC DANCE HALLS, TO
REGULATE HOURS AND TIMES WHEN PUBLIC DANCE HALLS
SHALL NOT BE OPEN: IMPOSING A COUNTY LICENSE TAX
FOR PUBLIC DANCE HALLS AND PRESCRIBING PUNISHMENT
FOR VIOLATIONS OF LICENSE AND HOURS.**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Supervisors of Middlesex County, Virginia, that:

SECTION I- DEFINITIONS:

- 1.1- A PUBLIC DANCE HALL shall mean any place open to the general public where dancing is permitted to which an admission fee is charged or for which compensation is in any manner received either directly or indirectly by cover charge or otherwise, or where refreshments or food or any form of merchandise are served for compensation before, during or after dancing. The sale of any refreshments, food or any form of merchandise at any such place or the exhibiting of such for sale shall be deemed direct compensation for any such dance hall within the meaning of this section.

SECTION II- GENERAL PROVISIONS:

2.1- INTERPRETATION

- 2.1-1 The interpretation and application of the provisions of this ordinance shall be held to be the minimum requirements for the public health, safety and welfare.
- 2.1-2 Where the conditions imposed by any provision of this ordinance or either more restrictive or less restrictive than comparable conditions imposed by any other provision of this ordinance or any other applicable law, ordinance, resolution, rule or regulation, the more restrictive provisions (or those which impose higher standards or requirements) shall govern.
- 2.1-3 Nothing contained in this ordinance shall be deemed to be a consent, license or permit to locate, instruct or maintain any ~~structure~~ structure, site, facility or operation, or to carry on any trade, industry, occupation or activity.
- 2.1-4 The provisions of this ordinance are accumulative and additional limitations upon all other laws and ordinances heretofore passed or which may be passed hereafter, covering any subject matter in this ordinance.

2.2 SEPARABILITY

It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Board of Supervisors of Middlesex County that the several provisions of this ordinance be separable in accordance with the following.

2.2-1 If any Court of competent jurisdiction shall adjudge any provision of this ordinance to be invalid, such judgement shall not affect any other provisions of this ordinance not specifically ~~included~~ included in said judgement.

2.2-2 If any Court of competent jurisdiction shall adjudge invalid the application of any provision of this ordinance to a particular structure, site, facility or operation, such judgement shall not affect the application of said provision to any other structure, site, facility, or operation not specifically included in said judgement.

2.3 SHORT TITLE

This ordinance shall be known and may be ~~sited~~ cited as the Middlesex County Public Dance Hall Ordinance.

SECTION III- LICENSE TAXES FOR PUBLIC DANCE HALLS:

3.1-1 A County license tax of Fifty and no/100 Dollars (\$50.00) a year is hereby imposed on every person, association, corporation or firm operating or conducting any public dance halls in Middlesex County.

3.1-2 Permits Required. Only public dance halls that have complied with the requirements of the state law (Section 18.1-350 of the Code of Virginia, as amended) pursuant to permits shall be operated in Middlesex County.

SECTION IV- HOURS AND TIMES WHEN DANCE HALLS SHALL NOT BE OPEN:

4.1 Public dance halls shall not be open in Middlesex County on Sundays (From 12:01 o'clock until 12 o'clock midnight on Sundays); shall not remain open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, or Friday nights past two o'clock in the morning, and shall not remain open past midnight on Saturdays.

SECTION V- EXCEPTIONS:

5.1 The provisions of this ordinance shall not apply to dances held for benevolent or charitable purposes, or when the same are conducted under the auspices of religious, educational, civic or military organizations.

SECTION VI- PENALTIES:

6.1 Any person, association, corporation or firm violating any provision of this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction therefor, shall be fined not less than Fifty and no/100 Dollars (\$50.00) nor more than Three Hundred and no/100 Dollars (\$300.00) for each offense.

SECTION VII- EFFECTIVE DATE:

7.1 This ordinance shall be effective from the date of its adoption.