

VILLAGE OF HOSSTON ORDINANCE NO. 6 OF 2025

AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE VILLAGE OF HOSSTON, TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS, AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS.

WHEREAS, the Village of Hosston seeks to promote public safety and preserve the peace and welfare of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the unauthorized or negligent discharge of firearms within corporate limits presents a danger to persons **and property**;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Village of Hosston, Louisiana, that:

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this ordinance:

- **Firearm** means any gun, rifle, pistol, revolver, shotgun, or other weapon that discharges a projectile by means of explosive, compressed air, or gas.
- **Discharge** means the firing, shooting, or releasing of a projectile from a firearm.
- **Corporate Limits** means the area within the legal boundaries of the Village of Hosston.

SECTION 2. GENERAL PROHIBITION

It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge any firearm within the corporate limits of the Village of Hosston, except as provided in this ordinance.

SECTION 3. EXEMPTIONS

This ordinance shall not apply to:

1. **Law enforcement officers** acting in the course and scope of their official duties;
2. **Self-defense or defense of others** as provided under Louisiana law (La. R.S. 14:18–21);
3. **Ceremonial or commemorative events** (e.g., military honors, historical reenactments) approved by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen.

SECTION 4. PENALTIES

Any person who violates the provisions of this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be subject to:

- A **fine not to exceed \$500**, or
- **Imprisonment** for a period not to exceed **60 days**, or both, at the discretion of the court.

Each discharge shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION 5. ENFORCEMENT

The provisions of this ordinance shall be enforced by the **Village of Hosston Police Department** and other law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction.

SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this ordinance is found to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption and publication in accordance with law.

First Reading: May 20, 2025- Introduced and read by title and approved as read and set for Public Hearing on June 17, 2025, on motion made by Alderman _____, seconded by Alderman _____.

Second Reading: June 17, 2025- Having been approved on the first reading on May 20, 2025 and after publication of notice and a public hearing, was read by title, with a motion to approve as read by Alderman _____, seconded by Alderman _____ to adopt the ordinance, a record vote was taken and the result was as follows:

Ayes: **Nays:** **Absent:**

THUS ORDAINED AND ADOPTED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Village of Hosston, Louisiana, on this ____ day of _____, 2025.

Hayden Linn, Town Clerk

Kim Jaynes, Mayor