



Ordinance 691

An Ordinance amending multiple sections of the Town Code to establish immediate fines for failure to obtain required licenses, permit or pay applicable fees and to authorize the issuance of instant summonses for such violations.

Sponsored By: Mayor and Council

First and Second Reading: July 9, 2026

Results: Passed 5 In Favor, 0 Opposed, 2 Absent

Third and Final Reading: August 13, 2026

Results:

Ordinance 691

An Ordinance amending multiple sections of the Town Code to establish immediate fines for failure to obtain required licenses, permit or pay applicable fees and to authorize the issuance of instant summonses for such violations.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have determined that the existing fine structure for not complying with the Town Code is inadequate and does not serve as a deterrent to those who seem to be willing to risk being caught violating the Code of the Town of Elsmere than complying with that Code; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council believe that fines must serve as a deterrent to non-compliance and not as a mere minor risk worth taking;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ELSMERE AS FOLLOWS:

That following chapters of the Code of The Town of Elsmere be amended as follows.

1. Chapter 60: Licenses and Permits, Article II, Doubling of Fees for Failure to Obtain Licenses or Pay Fees.

In Chapter 60-8 (C). Add the word “immediately” before the word “fined” to read as follows.

Any owner, person, firm, company, or corporation who violates section 60-7 of this chapter shall in addition to having the cost of the appropriate license, permit or fee doubled, be immediately fined an amount of not less than \$300.00 for a first offense or less than \$600.00 for a second or subsequent offense.

2. Chapter 98: Fines, Payment Of

That Section 98-5 Instant Summonses, be amended as follows.

In Section 98-5 A. Add a new (12) to read as follows.

- (12) Chapter 60-8 (C) of the Code of the Town of Elsmere Licenses and Permits, Article II, Doubling of Fees for Failure to Obtain Licenses or Pay Fees.

Any owner, person, firm, company, or corporation who violates Section 60-7 of this chapter shall in addition to having the cost of the appropriate license, permit or fee doubled, be immediately fined an amount of not

less than \$300.00 for a first offense or less than \$600.00 for a second or subsequent offense.

First and Second Reading
July 9, 2026

Third and Final Reading
August 13, 2026

Joann I. Personti, Mayor

Jane McDaniel, Secretary

Approved as to form:

Town Solicitor

SYNOPSIS

This Ordinance amends Chapter 60, “Licenses and Permits,” and Chapter 98, “Violations and Penalties,” of the Code of the Town of Elsmere to establish immediate fines for violations related to failure to obtain required licenses, permits or pay applicable fees, and to authorize the issuance of instant summonses for such violations.

Fiscal Impact

None.