

## ORDINANCE NO. 1083

### AN ORDINANCE AMENDING NORTHFIELD CITY CODE, CHAPTER 30 – HEALTH AND SANITATION, ARTICLE III. – REGULATION OF CANNABIS RETAIL BUSINESSES, LOWER-POTENCY HEMP EDIBLE RETAILERS, AND EVENTS

**THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTHFIELD DOES ORDAIN THAT** (new material is underlined in red; deleted material is lined out; sections which are not proposed to be amended are omitted; sections which are only proposed to be re-numbered are only set forth below as to their number and title):

SECTION 1. Northfield Code, Chapter 30 – Health and Sanitation, Article III. – Regulation of Cannabis Retail Businesses, Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Retailers, and Events, Division 1. Generally, Sec. 30-102. – Definitions, is hereby amended to read as follows:

*Preliminary License Approval* means the preliminary license approval issued by the OCM pre-approval for to a cannabis business license applicant for applicants who qualify qualifies under Minn. Stat. §§ 342.14 or 342.17, as evidenced by a document or other written communication from the OCM to the applicant.

SECTION 2. Northfield Code, Chapter 30 – Health and Sanitation, Article III. – Regulation of Cannabis Retail Businesses, Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Retailers, and Events, Division 2. Cannabis Retail Business Registration, Sec. 30-122. – Limitation of registrations, is hereby amended to read as follows:

#### **Sec. 30-122. Limitation of registrations.**

The city shall limit the number of cannabis retail businesses to no fewer than one registration for every 12,500 residents within the city, excluding medical cannabis combination businesses and any potential municipal cannabis store, and shall issue no more than two (2) cannabis retail business registrations. The city ~~may~~ shall include in its count of active retail registrations any cannabis retail business operating under a Tribal compact or a Tribally issued license or registration. If there is one active cannabis retail business registration for every 12,500 residents in the applicable county, the city shall not ~~be required to~~ register additional state-licensed cannabis retail businesses. The city shall process cannabis retail registration applications in the order in which the completed applications are received. An application for city registration pursuant to this chapter shall not be received or processed by the city until an applicant has been issued the applicable license by the state or written notice of preliminary license ~~preapproval~~ by the OCM pursuant to applicable state law. Any application received by the city prior to an applicant's issuance of valid state licensure or written notice of preliminary license ~~preapproval~~ by the OCM shall be returned to the applicant unprocessed along with the applicant's registration fee.

SECTION 3. Northfield Code, Chapter 30 – Health and Sanitation, Article III. – Regulation of Cannabis Retail Businesses, Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Retailers, and Events, Division 2. Cannabis Retail Business Registration, Sec. 30-123. – Application, is hereby amended to read as follows:

### Sec. 30-123. Application.

The city shall issue a retail registration to a state-licensed cannabis retail business that adheres to the requirements of Minn. Stat. 342.22, this article, chapter 34 of the city code, and the state fire code and building code, as applicable.

- (a) An applicant for a retail registration shall fill out an application form, as provided by the city. Said form shall include, but is not limited to:
  - (1) Full name of the property owner and business owner (applicant).
  - (2) Address, email address, and telephone number of the applicant.
  - (3) If the applicant is a corporation or any other type of business organization, the application shall also contain the names, addresses and respective percentage ownership interest of all of the owners of the corporation or business organization, provided however that if the number of owners exceeds ten persons only the ten owners having the largest percentage of ownership shall be listed.
  - (4) The address and parcel ID for the property which the retail registration is sought and, if applying with only a preliminary license approval issued by OCM and not a valid license, evidence of control of the property or premises for which the retail registration is sought.
  - (5) Certification that the applicant complies with the requirements of this article, chapter 34, article 2, sections 2.7 and 2.9 of the city code, and with the state fire code and building code, as applicable.
  - (6) Certification that the applicant has a valid license or ~~license preapproval~~ preliminary license approval issued by the OCM; and
  - (7) Any other information the city deems necessary.
- (b) The applicant shall include with the form:
  - (1) the application fee as required in section 30-127; and
  - (2) a copy of a valid state license or written notice of OCM or ~~license preapproval~~ preliminary license approval.
- (c) Once an application is considered complete by the city clerk, the city clerk or their designee shall inform the applicant as such, process the application fees, and forward the application to the city council for approval or denial.
- (d) The application fee shall be non-refundable once processed.
- (e) If the city council approves a retail registration application submitted with a preliminary license approval and prior to the issuance of a license by the OCM to the applicant, the applicant shall be required to submit a copy of a valid state license issued by the OCM to the city clerk and allow a preliminary inspection to be conducted pursuant to section 30-124 prior to making any sales within the city.

SECTION 4. Northfield Code, Chapter 30 – Health and Sanitation, Article III. – Regulation of Cannabis Retail Businesses, Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Retailers, and Events, Division 2. Cannabis Retail Business Registration, Sec. 30-124. – Inspection prior to retail registration, is hereby amended to read as follows:

## **Sec. 30-124. Inspection prior to retail registration.**

- (a) Prior to the issuance of a cannabis retail business registration to an applicant with a valid license from the OCM, the city shall conduct a preliminary inspection to ensure compliance with the requirements of this article and all city ordinances.
- (b) If the city council approves a retail registration application submitted by an applicant with a preliminary license approval and prior to the issuance of a license by the OCM to the applicant, the city shall conduct a preliminary inspection to ensure compliance with the requirements of this article and all city ordinances after the applicant has submitted a copy of a valid state license to the city clerk pursuant to section 30-123(e). The applicant shall not make sales within the city prior to the completion of the preliminary inspection.

SECTION 5. Northfield Code, Chapter 30 – Health and Sanitation, Article III. – Regulation of Cannabis Retail Businesses, Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Retailers, and Events, Division 2. Cannabis Retail Business Registration, Sec. 30-126. – Basis for denial, is hereby amended to read as follows:

## **Sec. 30-126. Basis for denial.**

The following shall be grounds for denying the issuance of retail registration or a renewal required under this article:

- (1) The cannabis retail business would exceed the maximum number of registered cannabis retail businesses permitted under Section 30-122.
- (2) The applicant does not have a valid license or ~~license preapproval~~ preliminary license approval issued by the OCM.
- (3) The applicant fails to provide any information required on the application or provides inaccurate, false or misleading information.
- (4) The fee for the registration or registration renewal has not been paid.
- (5) The applicant's cannabis retail business does not comply with the requirements of this article, chapter 34 of the city code, and with the state fire code and building code.
- (6) The applicant's cannabis retail business operates in violation of any section of Minn. Stat. ch. 342.
- (7) The applicant's cannabis retail business made any sales with the city prior to issuance of a valid retail registration by the city pursuant to this article.
- (8) The applicant has otherwise failed a compliance check completed by the city.
- (9) The applicant intends to operate the cannabis retail business in a different location than the property included on the application brought before the city council.
- (10) No registration shall be granted or renewed for operation of a cannabis retail business on any premises on which taxes, assessments, service charges, or other financial claims of the city or of the state are delinquent. If an action has been commenced pursuant to the provisions of Minn. Stat. ch. 278,

questioning the amount or validity of the taxes, the council may, on request of the applicant, waive strict compliance with this subsection. No waiver may be granted, however, for taxes or any portion thereof which remain unpaid for a period exceeding one year after they become due, except, in the sole discretion of the city council under the circumstances presented, in instances of a lessee of leased property upon which taxes are delinquent.

SECTION 6. Northfield Code, Chapter 30 – Health and Sanitation, Article III. – Regulation of Cannabis Retail Businesses, Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Retailers, and Events, Division 2. Cannabis Retail Business Registration, Sec. 30-131. – Term, is hereby amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 30-131. Term.**

All registrations issued under this article must be renewed annually at the same time OCM renews the cannabis retail business’s state license. In the event that OCM does not renew the license for any cannabis retail business subject to this article or does not issue a valid license to a cannabis retail business registered with preliminary license approval in the required statutory timeframe, the retail registration for that cannabis retail business shall terminate automatically without further action from the city.

SECTION 7. This Ordinance shall take effect thirty days after its publication.

Passed by the City Council of the City of Northfield, Minnesota, this 9<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2025.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

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Mayor

First Reading:	August 19, 2025
Second Reading:	September 9, 2025
Published:	September 17, 2025

VOTE:     \_\_\_ ZWEIFEL \_\_\_ BEUMER \_\_\_ DAHLEN \_\_\_ HOLMES  
          \_\_\_ NESS \_\_\_ PETERSON WHITE \_\_\_ SOKUP