

ORDINANCE NO. 2026 - 24

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY REVISED CODE TITLE XIII, CHAPTER 130,
SECTION 20 REGARDING LOUD SOUND (STEREO) AMPLIFICATION**

WHEREAS, the City of Mt. Vernon ("the City") is an Illinois Home Rule Municipal Corporation, duly existing under the laws of the State of Illinois, and embodied as a Home Rule entity with certain rights and powers pursuant to the Illinois Constitution, Article VII, Section 6, and hereby makes an express declaration as to the use of its Home Rule Authority in the enacting and adopting of this Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the City may pass ordinances, not inconsistent with the criminal laws of this State, to regulate any matter expressly within the authorized powers of the municipality, or incidental thereto, making the violation thereof a misdemeanor (*see* 65 ILCS 5/1-2-1.1); and

WHEREAS, the City may prevent or suppress illegal acts as well as riots, routs, affrays, noises, disturbances, trespasses, and disorderly assemblies in any public or private place (*see* 65 ILCS 5/11-5-2); and

WHEREAS, the City maintains a Revised Code of Ordinances that sets forth a section entitled Misdemeanors in Title XIII, Chapter 130; and

WHEREAS, the City has experienced the amplification of loud sounds emanating from public and private property; and

WHEREAS, loud sound (stereo) amplifications emanating from vehicles on roadways, public property, and private property threaten the public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, loud sound (stereo) amplifications emanating from vehicles on roadways, public property, and private property further threaten the peaceful use and enjoyment of public and private property; and

WHEREAS, the City has a significant government interest in protecting the physical health, safety, and welfare of all people in its community, in protecting the peaceful use and enjoyment of public and private property, and in preventing disruption to the peace, comfort, and well-being of the community; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that the United States and Illinois Constitutions protect the freedom of speech. The purpose of this Ordinance is to protect the health, safety, and welfare

of the public, to protect the peaceful use and enjoyment of public and private property, and to prevent disruption to the peace, comfort, and well-being of the community by regulating loud sound (stereo) amplification in a content-neutral manner within the City. Therefore, nothing in this Ordinance is intended to apply to or limit any specific content within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council for the City of Mt. Vernon, after considerable thought and deliberation, finds that it is in the best interest of the public health, safety, and welfare for the City to amend Chapter 130.20, regarding Loud Sound (Stereo) Amplification, as set forth below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON, ILLINOIS, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1 - RECITALS: The above recitals are true and material and are adopted herein as express findings of legislative fact, intent, and discretion of the City of Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

SECTION 2 -AMENDMENT: That Title XIII, Chapter 130.20 is hereby amended and shall read as follows:

“(A) No owner, operator or person in control of any motor vehicle upon any street or upon any public or private property within the City of Mt. Vernon, except the operator of an authorized emergency vehicle, shall operate or permit operation of any sound amplification system that is louder than average conversational level at a distance of 75 or more feet from the outside of the vehicle, unless that system is being operated to request assistance or warn of a hazardous situation.

(B) Between 10:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M., no person upon any street or upon any public or private property within the City of Mt. Vernon, except the operator of an authorized emergency vehicle, shall operate or permit operation of any sound amplification system that is louder than average conversational level at a distance of 75 or more feet from the property line from which the noise is emanating, unless that system is being operated to request assistance or warn of a hazardous situation.

(C) This Section applies with equal force to restaurants and bars with outdoor music except, on Saturday and Sunday, the limitations on loud sound (stereo) amplification contained in this Section shall apply to such establishments between 12:00 A.M. and 7:00 A.M.

(D) The limitations imposed by this section do not apply to persons participating in a parade, athletic event, public assembly, or other outdoor special event sanctioned by the City.

(E) Any violation of the provisions of this Section shall be subject to the following fines:

(1) For the first violation of this Section within any twelve-month period a fine of \$100.00;

(2) For the second violation of this Section within any twelve-month period a fine of \$250.00; and

(3) For the third violation and each subsequent violation of this Section within any twelve month period, a fine of \$500.00.”

SECTION 3 - SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS: Each section, paragraph, sentence, clause and provision of this Ordinance is severable, and if any provision is held unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the remainder of the Ordinance, nor any part thereof, other than that part affected by such decision.

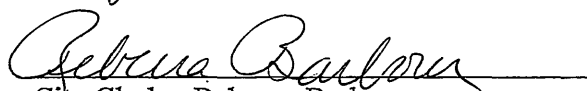
SECTION 4 - CONFLICTING ORDINANCES: Any conflicting ordinances, code provisions or pertinent portions thereof in effect at the time this Ordinance takes effect are hereby repealed. Nothing in this Ordinance shall be deemed to modify any other section of Title XIII, Chapter 130 of the City Revised Code, and all remaining provisions of Title XIII, Chapter 130 not otherwise expressly modified herein remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 5 - AUTHORITY: This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an exercise of the City’s home rule authority pursuant to Illinois law.

SECTION 6 - EFFECTIVE DATE: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage, approval, and publication as provided by law.

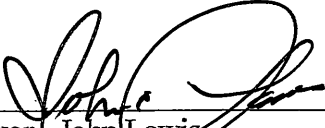
PASSED by the City Council of the City of Mt. Vernon, Illinois, on the 6th day of

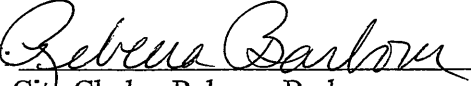
July 2026.


City Clerk – Rebecca Barbour

NAME	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT	CONFLICT
Gliosci	✓				
Moore	✓				
Tate	✓				
Young				✓	
Lewis	✓				

APPROVED by the Mayor of the City of Mt. Vernon, Illinois on the 7th day of
July 2026

APPROVED: 
Mayor John Lewis

ATTEST: 
City Clerk – Rebecca Barbour

(SEAL)