

Introduced: 08/09/2022
Public Hearing: 09/13/2022
Adopted: 09/13/2022

**TOWNSHIP OF TEWKSBURY
HUNTERDON COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
ORDINANCE NO. 12-2022**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TEWKSBURY, HUNTERDON
COUNTY, NEW JERSEY CREATING TITLE 9, PUBLIC PEACE, MORALS
AND WELFARE, CHAPTER 9.14, FIREARMS, OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE
OF ORDINANCES**

WHEREAS, the Township of Tewksbury (the "Township") regulates certain conduct affecting the public peace, morals and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee finds and declares that it is in the best interests of the health, safety and welfare of Township and its residents to regulate the carrying of firearms in Township buildings and at meetings of Township boards and committees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Tewksbury, Hunterdon County, New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. Title 9, Public Peace, Morals and Welfare, Chapter 9.14, Firearms, of the Township Code of Ordinances is hereby created as follows:

9.14.010 – Township property and buildings.

- A. Except as otherwise provided in this code, no person shall have in his possession or carry, either concealed or openly, any firearm on Township owned property or within any Township owned building, office or other structure.
- B. Nothing in this Chapter shall prohibit the keeping of any unloaded and secured firearms inside a locked vehicle located in the parking lot of any Township owned property by any person not otherwise prohibited to possess such firearms.
- C. Nothing in this Chapter shall prohibit the carrying of firearms in Township buildings by sworn police officers and persons designated in writing by the Chief of Police or his designee as permitted to carry firearms inside Township buildings.

9.14.020 – Public meetings.

- A. No person shall have in his possession or carry, either concealed or openly, any firearm at any location in which a meeting of the Township Committee, including any subcommittee thereof, Township Land Use Board, or any other official board or body of the Township is in progress.

- B. Nothing in this Chapter shall prohibit the keeping of any unloaded and secured firearms inside a locked vehicle located in a parking lot adjacent to the location of a meeting of the Township Committee, including any subcommittee thereof, Township Land Use Board, or any other official board or body of the Township by any person not otherwise prohibited to possess such firearms.
- C. Nothing in this Chapter shall prohibit the carrying of firearms at any location in which a meeting of the Township Committee, including any subcommittee thereof, Township Land Use Board, or any other official board or body of the Township is in progress by sworn police officers and persons designated in writing by the Chief of Police or his designee as permitted to carry firearms at such meetings.

9.14.030 – Violations and penalties; enforcement.

- A. Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be immediately removed from the premises and shall be subject to such penalties as are provided for in Chapter 1.08, General Penalty.
- B. This chapter shall be enforced by the Township Police Department.

SECTION 2. All actions of the Township taken prior to the date of adoption hereof contemplated by this Ordinance are hereby ratified and approved.

SECTION 3. If any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole or any remaining part thereof.

SECTION 4. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances of the Township of Tewksbury heretofore adopted that are inconsistent with any of the terms and provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its final passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

I HEREBY CERTIFY the above to be a true copy of an Ordinance introduced by the Township Committee of the Township of Tewksbury at a duly convened meeting held on August 9, 2022 and adopted on September 13, 2022.

Jennifer Ader
Municipal Clerk