ORDINANCES MILES CITY, MONTANA

ORDINANCE NO. 1171

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING CAMPING IN CITY PARKS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS

WHEREAS, the City of Miles City owns and operates certain park grounds within the City Limits;

AND WHEREAS, the parks within the city limits of the City of Miles City were not designed for, intended for, nor provided with the facilities for, overnight camping;

AND WHEREAS, overnight camping can constitute a public health and safety hazard and increase the potential for crimes against persons and property in or near city parks, which adversely impacts other users of the city parks, and adjoining residential and commercial areas;

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Miles City, Montana as follows:

Section 1. There is added to Chapter 17 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Miles City, Montana, an Article VI, entitled "Park Regulations".

Section 2. There is added Section 17-120 to Article VI of Chapter 17 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Miles City, Montana, to read as follows:

Sec. 17-120 Definition: For purposes of this Article, "to camp" means

a. to erect of a tent or shelter of natural or synthetic material, prepare a sleeping bag or other bedding material for use, or park a motor vehicle, motor home, or trailer for the apparent purpose of overnight occupancy;

b. to sleep at any time between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. outdoors, with or without bedding, sleeping bag, blanket, mattress, tent, hammock, or other similar protection;

c. to sleep at any time between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. in, on, or under any structure or object, any motor vehicle, motor home, or trailer, with or without bedding, sleeping bag, blanket, mattress, tent, hammock, or other similar protection; or

d. to establish or maintain outdoors or in, on, or under any structure or thing not intended for human occupancy, at any time between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., a temporary or permanent place for sleeping, by setting up any bedding, sleeping bag, blanket, mattress, tent, hammock, or other sleeping equipment or device or setting up any cooking equipment with the intent to remain in that location overnight.

Section 3. There is added Section 17-121 to Article VI of Chapter 17 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Miles City, Montana, to read as follows:

Sec. 17-120 Camping Prohibited

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It shall be unlawful for any person to camp in any public park within the city limits of the City of Miles City.

Section 4. There is added Section 17-121 to Article VI of Chapter 17 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Miles City, Montana, to read as follows:

Sec. 17-121 Violation a Misdemeanor; Penalty.

Any person violating any provisions of this Article shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.00, or imprisonment for a term not to exceed six months, or both.

Section 5. This ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days following its final passage.

Said ordinance read and put on its passage this 11th day of September, 2007.

Joe Whalen, Mayor

ATTEST

Kori Pray, City Clerk

FINALLY PASSED AND ADOPTED this 25th day of September, 2007.

Joe Whalen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kori Pray, City Clerk