

Chapter 21, ASSEMBLIES, MASS PUBLIC

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Greenfield as indicated in article histories. Amendments noted where applicable.]

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

MGL c. 40, § 21

GENERAL REFERENCES

Peace and good order -- See Ch. 121.

Streets and sidewalks -- See Ch. 159.

ARTICLE I, Public Demonstrations

[Adopted 7-17-1985; approved by AG 9-19-1985 (Sec. 3.10 of the 1985 BylawsEN); amended 11-20-1991]

§ 21-1. Promulgation of regulations.

Recognizing the rights of citizens to assemble pursuant to the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and applicable parts of the Massachusetts Constitution, but the Town of Greenfield, also being cognizant of its rights and responsibilities to impose reasonable order and to insure public safety, the following bylaws are hereby promulgated by the legislative body of the Town of Greenfield, the Town Council:

§ 21-2. Registration form.

No person shall take part in any demonstration on public property under the control of the Town unless and until a registration form has been filed at the Office of the Board of Selectmen.

§ 21-3. Criteria for acceptance; fee.

The Office of the Selectmen shall accept all registrations for public demonstrations except where said use would conflict as to time and place with a registration previously submitted. No fee shall be charged for any such registration.

§ 21-4. Time of filing.

All registrations shall be filed with the Selectmen's Office at least seven (7) business days prior to the planned demonstration. The registration form shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- A. The date and starting time;
- B. The name, address and telephone number of the applicant and the name of the organization involved;
- C. The formation of assembly area and the time therefor;
- D. The route of the procession or motorcade and what portions, if any, of the streets traversed may be occupied by such procession or motorcade; and
- E. The approximate number of persons and vehicles in the procession or motorcade.

§ 21-5. Town procedures.

The following procedure shall be followed pursuant to submission of all registration forms:

- A. Upon accepting a registration, personnel in the Selectmen's Office shall indicate on a prominently displayed calendar, reservation of the date and place indicated on the registration form.
- B. Within one (1) business day of the receipt in the Selectmen's Office, all registrations shall be forwarded to the Chief of Police for review.
- C. The Chief of Police shall, within three (3) business days of receipt of the registration form, review and return it to the Selectmen's Office.

D. The Chair of the Selectmen, or the Chair's designee, will notify the registrants of approval/disapproval of the registration (or any problems involved) within one (1) business day of return of the form by the Chief of Police.

§ 21-6. Authority to modify place, time and route.

The Board of Selectmen shall have the authority to modify the place, the time, and route of a demonstration, procession or other organized formation to facilitate crowd control in the interest of relieving congestion and promoting public safety, provided that the applicant's right of free speech is not denied thereby.

§ 21-7. Violations and penalties.

Violations of the above bylaws (§§ 21-1 through 21-6, inclusive) shall result in a civil penalty not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) for each offense, which shall inure to the benefit of the Town, all pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 21.