

City of Seguin

Planning/Codes Department

Memorandum

Date: August 12, 2015
To: Mayor Keil and the Seguin City Council
From: Pamela Centeno
Director of Planning and Codes
RE: Draft Amendments to the Garage Sale Ordinance

Staff has received requests from the public and direction from Council members to review the City of Seguin's Garage Sale Ordinance and draft amendments that will allow more flexibility for residents that desire to sell their personal property at a garage and estate sales. Staff has been asked to consider revising the signage regulations to allow better advertisement of sales. Additionally, staff has also been asked to investigate the possibility of classifying estate sales separately from garage sales. Staff has reviewed the ordinance in its entirety and is proposing amendments as highlighted in the draft ordinance attached. The most significant changes include:

- Adding a definition for an estate sale.
- Allowing nonprofit organizations to hold garage sales on commercial property with the approval of the owner. (This will allow nonprofit agencies that do not have their own property more flexibility in finding a suitable location.)
- Increasing the maximum sign size to nine square feet. (The code currently has a maximum size of four sq. ft.)
- Allowing two off-premises signs with the written consent of the property owner. (The code currently restricts signage to two on-premises signs, off-premises signs are not allowed.)
- Requiring all signage to be picked up by 8:00 pm on the last day of the sale. (The code currently allows 24 hours after the sale for pickup.)
- Changing the operating hours to 7:00 am to 6:00 pm. (The code currently has hours of 8:00 am to 6:00 pm.)
- Separating estate sales from garage sales in the maximum number allowed. (Two garage sales are allowed per calendar year, but estate sales were not directly addressed.)

Staff is not recommending any fee amendments at this time. The current fee for a permit is \$5.00.

Attached for your review is a draft ordinance with these and a few other minor changes. The changes are proposed for discussion only and no action will be taken at the Council meeting on August 18, 2015. At this time, staff is requesting direction from City Council so that a formal ordinance amendment can be presented for consideration at a future Council meeting.