

Ordinance No. 2016-01

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 4 DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES

The Village Board of the Village of Rockdale, Dane County, Wisconsin, DO ORDAIN as follows:

1. Section 4.15 (E), Section 4.15 (F) and Section 4.15 (G) of the Rockdale Municipal Code is hereby recreated to read as follows:
 - (E) No person shall own, keep, harbor or board any cattle, horses, ponies, swine, goats, sheep or fowl within the Village boundaries. License applications will be approved by the Village Board for chickens, honeybees and rabbits.
 - (F) Provisions for keeping of honeybees.
 - (1) Application. A Honeybee License Application must be obtained and issued within 30 days of acquiring honey bees or the permit will be subject to a late fee. Application must be approved by the Village Board and license issued by the Clerk-Treasurer. See Village of Rockdale Fee Schedule for application fee. The Village Board and/or representative of the Village Board reserve the right to review the license for any reason and to investigate any complaints.
 - (2) Additional Application Requirements.
 - (a) If the location of the hive is on a multi-family lot, all families sharing the property must give consent for the hives in addition to neighboring property consent as applicable.
 - (b) The applicant for the license notifies all residents of the property and the owner or operator of the property if the applicant is not the owner or operator.
 - (3) Number of Hives. There must be no more than two hives of honeybees for every 2,000 square feet of property.
 - (4) Water Source. Hives shall be provided with fresh water throughout the day and be designed to allow bees to access water by landing on a hard surface. (This is not required during the winter.)
 - (5) Location of Hives and Fencing and Flyway Barriers. Hives may be no closer than 25 feet to an occupied building on a neighboring lot or border a public right-of-way (generally no front yard hives), unless yard housing honeybees has a privacy fence at least six feet in height or has a flyway barrier (wall, building, dense vegetation, or combination thereof) to fulfill fencing requirements.
 - (6) Fencing Exemption. Yards that do not border a public right-of-way and are more than 25 feet from an occupied building on a neighboring lot may request an exemption from the fencing requirement. Applicants seeking a fencing exemption must complete the Fencing Exemption Petition for the Keeping of Honeybees showing that 100% of property owners on abutting lots give consent for the fencing exemption.
 - (7) Public Nuisance. Care must be taken so as not to cause a public nuisance in your neighborhood. A Honeybee License may be revoked after public or anonymous complaint has been documented, investigated, and viewed by the Village Board.

- (G) Provisions for the keeping of chickens. The keeping of chickens is allowed in the Village of Rockdale under certain restrictions to maintain a safe and healthy environment for both birds and the public.
- (1) Application. A Chicken License Application must be obtained and issued within 30 days of acquiring chickens or the permit will be subject to a late fee. Application must be approved by the Village Board and license issued by the Clerk-Treasurer. See Village of Rockdale Fee Schedule for application fee. The Village Board and/or representative of the Village Board reserve the right to review the license for any reason and to investigate any complaints.
 - (2) A maximum of four (4) hens is allowed and zero (0) roosters may be kept within the village limits.
 - (3) Additional Application Requirements.
 - (a) Applicant must complete the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection "Livestock Premises Registration Application." Your registration number must be provided on the application.
 - (b) If the location of the coop is on a multi-family lot, all families sharing the property must give consent for the coop in addition to neighboring property consent as applicable.
 - (4) Village standards for operating and maintaining a chicken coop/loft.
 - (a) Feed must be stored in covered, rodent-proof containers. When feed is provided to the animal, it must be done in a manner that will not attract rodents.
 - (b) Birds must be tended to twice daily, assuring sufficient water, shelter (shade) and feed.
 - (c) Structures and grounds must be well maintained and in a clean and sanitary condition.
 - (d) Coop, feeding and lounging areas shall be cleaned of wet bedding and manure once per day.
 - (e) The "deep litter method" is not an acceptable method of coop sanitation and is not allowed.
 - (f) All animal waste (fecal matter, bedding, food, etc.) shall be properly stored and disposed of at least once a week.
 - (g) Flies, rodents and noxious odors must be controlled.
 - (h) Chickens must be confined to the property.
 - (5) Locating and constructing a coop/loft.
 - (a) The coop/loft must be located in the rear yard and must be 25 feet from any neighboring occupied building.
 - (b) The maximum height of the structure must be no more than 12 feet from the ground to the rooftop.
 - (c) If the proposed building is 120 square feet or larger, a building permit must be obtained by the property owner or a licensed contractor.
 - (d) If electricity is provided for heating or lighting, an electrical permit must be obtained by the property owner or a licensed contractor. No extension cord is allowed.
 - (6) No slaughtering.
 - (a) Any slaughtering of birds is prohibited within the Village limits unless where zoned agricultural.
 - (7) Public Nuisance. Care must be taken so as not to cause a public nuisance in your neighborhood. A Chicken License may be revoked after public or anonymous complaint has been documented, investigated, and viewed by the Village Board.

2. Section 4.15 (H) is hereby added to read as follows:

(H) Provisions for the keeping of rabbits.

- (1) Application. A Rabbit License Application must be obtained within 30 days of acquiring rabbits or the permit will be subject to a late fee. Application must be approved by the Village Board and license issued by the Clerk-Treasurer. See Village of Rockdale Fee Schedule for application fee. The Village Board and/or representative of the Village Board reserve the right to review the license for any reason and to investigate any complaints.
- (2) A maximum of six (6) rabbits is allowed and may be kept within the village limits.
- (3) No slaughtering.
 - (a) Any slaughtering of rabbits is prohibited within the Village limits unless where zoned agricultural.
- (4) Rabbits shall be provided with a covered enclosure and must be kept in the covered enclosure or a fenced enclosure at all times.
- (5) No enclosure shall be located closer than 25 feet to any residential structure on an adjacent lot.
- (7) Public Nuisance. Care must be taken so as not to cause a public nuisance in your neighborhood. A Rabbit License may be revoked after public or anonymous complaint has been documented, investigated, and viewed by the Village Board.

This ordinance shall be effective the day after proof of posting.


The above and foregoing Ordinance was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Rockdale Village Board on the 18th day of April, 2016.

APPROVED:



Kimberly A. Zuelsdorf, Village President

ATTEST:



Linda L. Dieckhoff, Village Clerk-Treasurer

Posted: April 18, 2016