

ORDINANCE

No.

CITY OF GOODHUE

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GOODHUE DOES ORDAIN:

_____. CHICKENS

Subd. 1. Chickens Limited. It is unlawful for any person to own, control, keep, maintain or harbor hen chickens on any residential premises in the City unless issued a permit to do so as provided herein. Permits will only be issued to owner operated residences. Those living in rental residential property, including multi-family residential property may not receive a permit. No permit shall be issued for the keeping or harboring of more than six (6) hen chickens on any premises. No permit shall be issued for the keeping of any rooster chicken on any premises.

Subd.2. Definitions. The term “At Large” shall mean a hen chicken out of its chicken run, off the premises or not under the custody and control of the owner. The term “Chicken” means a female chicken or hen. The term “Chicken Coop” means a structure for housing hen chickens made of wood or other similar materials that provides shelter from the elements. The term “Chicken Run” means an enclosed outside yard for keeping hen chickens. The term “Premises” means any platted lot or group of contiguous lots, parcels or tract of land.

Subd. 3. Permit. No person shall maintain a chicken coop and/or chicken run unless they have been granted a permit by the City. The permit shall be subject to all terms and conditions of this section and any additional conditions deemed necessary by the City to protect the public health, safety and welfare. The necessary permit applications are available in the City Clerk’s Office. Included with the completed application must be a scaled diagram that indicates the location of any chicken coop and run, and the approximate size and distance from adjoining structures and property lines. The owner must also obtain written approval of the keeping of chickens from all abutting property owners. A permit for the keeping of hen chickens may be revoked or suspended by the Council for any violation of this Section following a written notice and a public hearing. There will be no fee charged to obtain a permit, however, permits shall expire on December 31 of each year. Persons with permits will need to renew their permits annually with the City Clerk’s Office.

Subd. 4. Confinement. Every person who own, controls, keeps, maintains or harbors hen chickens must keep them confined at all times while in the city in a chicken coop and chicken run. Any coop and run shall be screened with a solid fence or landscaped buffer with a minimum height of four (4) feet. Any coop and run shall be at least twenty-five (25) feet from any residential structure on any other premises on any adjacent lots.

Subd. 5. Chicken Coops and Chicken Runs.

- A. All hen chicken coops and runs must be located at least twenty-five (25) feet from any dwelling on any other premises. All chicken coops must meet the requirements of the building and zoning codes, must not exceed ten (10) square feet per chicken and must not exceed seven (7) feet in total height. Attached fenced-in chicken runs must not exceed twenty (20) square feet per chicken must not exceed seven (7) feet in total height. Chicken runs may be enclosed with wood and/or woven wire materials, and allow chickens to contact the ground. Chicken feed and manure must be kept in rodent and raccoon proof containers must not be placed in yard compost piles.
- B. Chicken coops must either be:
1. Elevated with a clear open space of at least twenty-four (24) inches between the ground and the surface and framing/flooring of the coop; or.
 2. The coop, floor, foundation and footings must be constructed using rodent resistant construction.

Subd. 6. Conditions and Inspection. No person who owns, controls, keeps, maintains or harbors hen chickens shall permit the premises where the hen chickens are kept to be or remain in an unhealthy, unsanitary or noxious condition or to permit the premises to be in such condition that noxious odors are carried to adjacent public or private property. Any chicken coop and run authorized by permit under this chapter may be inspected at any reasonable time by the City Animal Control Officer or other agent of the City. Slaughter and breeding of hen chickens within the chicken coop or run on any residential premises within the City is Prohibited.

Subd. 7. Violations. Any person who owns, controls, keeps maintains or harbors chickens in the City limits of Goodhue without obtaining or maintaining a current permit or after a permit has been suspended or revoked by Council action shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.