

**CITY ORDINANCE  
CHAPTER 90  
CITY OF KEEWATIN**

ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 90.04: FARM ANIMALS,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KEEWATIN DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 90.04. Farm Animals currently reads as follows:

“Farm animals shall only be kept in an agricultural district of the city, or on a residential lot of at least ten acres in size provided that no animal shelter shall be within 300 feet of an adjoining piece of property. An exception shall be made to this section for those animals brought into the city as part of an operating zoo, veterinarian clinic, scientific research laboratory, or a licensed show or exhibition.”

**WHEREAS**, said Section shall be amended to read as follows:

“Subd. 1. Definitions. As used in this Section, the following definitions shall apply.

- A. The term “Chicken Coop” means a structure for housing chickens made of wood or other similar materials that provides shelter from the elements.
- B. The term “Chicken Run” means an enclosed outside yard for keeping chickens. The chicken coop is attached to the chicken run.
- C. The term “Premises” means any platted lot or group of contiguous lots, parcels or tracts of land.

Subd. 2 Generally. Except as hereinafter provided, farm animals shall only be kept in an agricultural district of the city,. An exception shall be made to this section for those animals brought into the city as part of an operating zoo, veterinarian clinic, scientific research laboratory, or a licensed show or exhibition.

Subd. 3. Permit

- A. It is unlawful for any person to keep or harbor chickens on any premises unless issued a permit to do so as provided in this chapter or except as specially allowed under this Section.
- B. No permit shall be issued for the keeping or harboring of more than three hen chickens on any premises. No permit shall be issued for the keeping of any rooster chicken on any premises.
- C. An application is required and must be filed by the property owner. It will include the following:
  - i. a scaled diagram that shows the location of any chicken coop and run, and its approximate size and distance from adjoining dwellings

- and property lines and showing the seasonal electrical connection to be used for keeping chicken water from freezing.
  - ii. written consent of one hundred percent (100%) of the property owners of privately or publicly owned real estate that are located adjacent (i.e., sharing property lines) on outer boundaries of the premises for which the permit is being requested.
  - iii. an application fee as set by the City Council.
- D. Only one annual permit for keeping chickens will be granted per premises.
- E. The principal use of the specified property must be single family residential. An annual permit will not be issued for any property which is used principally for something other than single-family.
- F. The City reserves the absolute right to revoke or modify an issued permit for failure to conform to all restrictions, limitations, or prohibitions in this ordinance. Modification or revocation shall be effective after ten (10) days following the mailing of written notice thereof by certified mail to the person or persons licensed to keep chickens.
- G. A permit for keeping chickens may only be issued upon the approval of the application and inspection by city or designated staff.

Subd. 4. Confinement.

- A. Every person who owns, controls, keeps, maintains or harbors hen chickens within the city limits of Keewatin must keep them confined in a chicken coop and chicken run. Any coop and run shall be screened by a visual barrier with a minimum height of four feet. Any coop and run shall be at least 25 feet from any residential structure on any other premises.
- B. Chicken coops must meet the accessory structure requirements of any accessory structures and must not exceed six feet in total height.
- C. The roofed structure (coop) shall be fully enclosed, wind proof, have one (1) square foot of window to fifteen (15) square feet of floor space (providing light/ventilation) and suitable insulation to maintain adequate indoor temperature during extremely cold conditions.
- D. No heat source will be allowed with the exception of a 60-125 watt heated chicken waterer which is UL approved and is installed and used to manufacturers guidelines. The chicken waterer shall be placed on a nonflammable surface. Electrical supply for heated chicken waterer may be either permanent or temporary. If temporary, the connection must use an outdoor extension cord rated with the same or higher wattage as the waterer, and all electrical connections must be protected from water.
- E. The structure shall be kept in a clean, sanitary and healthy condition with all droppings and body excretions collected on a daily basis.
- F. All chicken coops must be constructed using rodent resistant construction.
- G. Attached fenced-in chicken runs must not be smaller than 10 square feet per chicken and must not exceed 20 square feet per chicken and must not exceed six feet in total height. In addition, the total square feet for the chicken coop and run shall not exceed 80 square feet. The fence around the run shall allow

chickens to contact the ground, it shall be securely constructed with a mesh type material and shall have protective overhead netting to keep the chickens inside the area. The chicken run enclosure shall be well-drained so there is no accumulation of water.

- H. Chicken feed must be kept in rodent and raccoon-proof containers.
- I. Chicken manure shall be collected on a daily basis and placed in a fire proof covered container until applied as fertilizer, compost, or transported off the premises.
- J. Chickens must be banded for identification.

Subd. 5. Conditions. No person who owns, keeps or harbors hen chickens are to allow 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 section may be inspected at any reasonable time by any officer/agent of the City.

Subd. 6. Violations. Any person who keeps or harbors chickens in the City limits of Keewatin without obtaining or maintaining a current permit or after a permit has been suspended or revoked by council action shall be guilty of a petty misdemeanor. This ordinance becomes effective upon its passage and publication according to law."

All other provisions of Keewatin City Code Chapter 90: ANIMAL CONTROL shall remain as currently in existence and not amended except as specifically added herein and said amendment shall be effective immediately upon its passage and publication.

Moved by Councilor Thronson and seconded by Councilor Jivery that the foregoing ordinance be adopted.

Voting Aye: Councilor Thronson and Jivery  
Voting No: Councilor LaBine  
Absent: Councilor Maras and Mayor LaBine

Ordinance declared adopted this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2023.

CITY OF KEEWATIN

By: Michael LaBine  
Its Mayor, Michael LaBine

Attest:

Beth Ann Mackey  
City Clerk, Beth Ann Mackey

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