

RESOLUTION
Town of Grand Rapids
Wood County, Wisconsin

RESOLUTION NO: 2017-25
Re: Ordinance No. 8 – Animal Code

The Town Board of the Town of Grand Rapids, Wood County, Wisconsin,
RESOLVES as follows:

Ordinance 8 – Animal Code is hereby amended as presented.

The Town Board of the Town of Grand Rapids, Wood County, Wisconsin, has the specific authority under Chapters 60 and 66 of Wisconsin Statutes, and specifically § 60.22, Wis. Stats. to amend this ordinance.

The Ordinance has been revised to allow for chickens on residential properties. The following section has been added:

8.11 OTHER REGULATION

- A.(3) Notwithstanding subparagraph 2) above, chickens (roosters are prohibited) may be kept or maintained upon the following:
- a. Up to six (6) chickens (.6 animal units) may be raised within a lot zoned R-1 residential (one- and two-family), a lot zoned R-2 residential (one- and two-family), or R-2S residential (one-family), provided there is a use as a single-family or two-family; upon application to the Plan Commission and permit.
 1. Rental tenants of a single-family dwelling or a one-two family dwelling that is zoned R-1, R-2, or R2S shall obtain written approval from the landlord prior to the keeping or maintaining of chickens on the rental premise. The landlord's written approval must accompany the applicant's permit application.
 - b. No owner or tenant shall own, keep or maintain chickens within the Town under subparagraph 3 above without first obtaining a permit through application to the Plan Commission. A permit shall be subject to the following requirements:
 1. An Initial permit is due and payable, and approval by the Town Planning Commission is required, prior to acquiring and keeping chickens in the Town of Grand Rapids.
 2. During the initial application process, the Town will notify property owners within a 500-foot radius of an applicant's lot, of an applicant's intention to keep or maintain chickens. Notification of property owners shall not be required for renewal of a permit as long as the permit is kept current and has not lapsed.
 3. The permit year shall commence on January 1, and shall end on the following December 31, and shall be renewed annually.
 4. A permit granted shall not transfer to any other property or successor owners of a permitted property. A new permit must be applied for.
 5. Proof of a livestock premises registration with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection must be provided prior to the permit being issued.

6. The annual permit fee for keeping and maintaining chickens shall be set by Town policy for said permit as per Ordinance 39 – “Schedule of Fees and Forfeitures,” and must be paid to the Town at the time of application. This fee shall not be prorated.
 7. All renewal permits are due and payable to the Town no later than January 31 of the permit year. Any lapse in permitting shall require the applicant to meet all of the initial permit requirements as set forth above.
 8. A permit acquired under this subsection may be revoked by the Plan Commission upon its finding, after notice to the permit holder of the meeting at which revocation will be considered, that the terms of this ordinance or a permit issued thereunder have been violated.
- c. Any person keeping chickens under subparagraph 3 above, shall keep or maintain chickens within a coop or attached coop enclosure at all times. Newborn chickens (chicks) up to the age of three (3) weeks may be kept in a residence or outbuilding. Property and coop requirements for permitted chickens under subparagraph 3 above shall be subject to the following:
1. A coop and any attached enclosure shall be located in the side or rear yard area of the permit holder’s residence and shall meet all applicable Town Ordinance setback requirements for accessory buildings. A drawing of the coop and any attached enclosure and their locations shall be submitted with the permit application.
 2. A coop and any attached enclosure shall not be closer than 25ft. to a residential dwelling on an adjacent lot.
 3. All chickens shall be kept and maintained within a ventilated and roofed coop in compliance with any applicable state and local requirements. Chickens are not permitted to have free range.
 4. All coops, including an attached coop enclosure, shall be enclosed with wire netting or equivalent material that will prevent chickens from escaping the coop or the attached enclosure. The ability to utilize wire netting or equivalent materials shall only be for the limited purpose of the coop and coop enclosure; wire netting is not to be used as a boundary fence. All other fencing must adhere to the fencing regulations found within Town Ordinance section 52.3(J).
 5. The coop structural floor shall allow at least four (4) square feet per chicken, and the height of the coop shall not exceed six (6) feet above ground level.
 6. The coop shall have a clear open space to allow the chickens to walk on the ground or a concrete slab.
- d. Sanitation requirements for permitted chickens under subparagraph 3 above shall be subject to the following:
1. Chickens and their coops shall be kept and maintained at all times in outdoor areas and shall not be permitted inside a residential premise or dwelling, except as provided in subsection 8.11(A)(3)(c) above.
 2. Chicken feed shall be stored and kept in containers, which make the feed inaccessible to rodents, vermin, wild birds, and other predators.

3. All coops and backyards where chickens are kept or maintained shall be reasonably free from chicken manure and other substances, such that the air or environment around the chickens does not become noxious or offensive or create a condition that would reasonably promote the breeding of flies, mosquitoes, or other insects, or provide a habitat, breeding or feeding place for rodents or other animals, or otherwise be injurious to public health.
 4. Any person keeping chickens shall not slaughter any chickens on the premises.
 5. The Town shall have the power, whenever it may deem reasonably necessary, to enter a building, structure, or property where chickens are kept to ascertain whether the keeper is in compliance with this ordinance. The police department and the zoning department may issue compliance orders and citations pursuant to the provisions of this section, and state law.
- 4) This section is not intended to interfere with any restrictive covenants otherwise applicable to certain properties in the Town.
 - 5) Chickens may be temporarily allowed for special purposes such as a public-picnic and other special events upon approval of the Town Board.
 - 6) Any person keeping chickens allowed under this ordinance shall consult with a veterinarian regarding chickens that appear ill, or on the occasion of a sudden death. If a disease that would be contagious to humans is diagnosed, recommendations to insure prevention or transmission of a disease must be followed as recommended by the veterinarian.

This ordinance amended by a majority of the town board with a quorum present and voting and proper notice having been given, amends the attached Ordinance 8 – Animal Code.

Motion	For	Against	Abstain	Absent	ACTION TAKEN
Arne Nystrom	[]	[<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>]	[]	[]	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted as presented
<u>2</u> Bill Clendenning	[<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>]	[]	[]	[]	<input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended
Kathy Alft	[]	[<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>]	[]	[]	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejected
Patty Lumby	[<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>]	[]	[]	[]	<input type="checkbox"/> Tabled until _____
<u>1</u> Dan Paulsen	[<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>]	[]	[]	[]	<input type="checkbox"/> Referred to _____

I, Lisa Dotter, Clerk for the Town of Grand Rapids, hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a Resolution which was adopted on the 11th day of July, 2017 by the Town Board, Town of Grand Rapids, County of Wood.

Dated this 18th day of July, 2017.

By: Arne Nystrom

Arne Nystrom, Town Chairman

By: Lisa Dotter
Lisa Dotter, Clerk