

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-16

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BUDA, TEXAS, AMENDING ARTICLE 4 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES; AMENDING DEFINITIONS AND REGULATIONS RELATED TO LIVESTOCK, CREATING A PERMIT AND ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS FOR KEEPING POT-BELLIED PIGS, AND MAKING AMENDMENTS THERETO; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; ESTABLISHING PENALTIES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Buda, Texas (the "City") is a home rule municipality located in Hays County, Texas, created under the provisions of Chapter 9 of the Texas Local Government Code and operating according to the enabling legislation of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the regulation of animals within the City limits of the City of Buda is essential and necessary to protect the public and domestic animals, to preserve and protect the public safety, and to provide safe, secure communities; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is continually reviewing the provisions of the City Code of Ordinances to ensure that it meets the current needs of the City and reflects current practice; and

WHEREAS, the City is authorized by Texas Local Government Code § 51.001 to adopt or amend any ordinance for the good government, peace, or order of the municipality or for the trade and commerce of the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the City of Buda deems it necessary to adopt such codes and regulations; and

WHEREAS, the City finds that this Ordinance was passed and approved at a meeting of the City Council of the City of Buda held in strict compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act at which a quorum of the City Council Members was present and voting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BUDA, TEXAS, THAT:

Section 1: The facts and recitations set forth in the preamble of this Ordinance are hereby found to be true and correct.

Section 2: Article 4 of the Buda Code of Ordinances are hereby amended to read in accordance with **Exhibit A**, which is attached hereto and incorporated into this Ordinance for all intents and purposes. Underlined and italicized text shall be added, and struck-through text shall be deleted as indicated in **Exhibit A**.

Section 3: Passage. Pursuant to Section 3.12 of the City Charter, the Council determined that the first reading of this Ordinance is sufficient for adequate consideration by an affirmative vote of five or more members of the City Council during the first reading and the Ordinance was passed by the affirmative vote of four or more members of the City Council; therefore, this

Ordinance is adopted and enacted without further readings. In the event a second reading is necessary, this Ordinance is adopted and enacted upon the affirmative vote of four or more members of the City Council upon second reading.

Section 4: Severability. If any clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be deemed to be unenforceable for any reason, such unenforceable clause or provision shall be severed from the remaining portion of the Ordinance, which shall continue to have full force and effect.

Section 5: Repeal. This Ordinance shall be and is hereby cumulative of all other ordinances of the City of Buda, Texas, and this Ordinance shall not operate to repeal or affect any of such other ordinances except insofar as the provisions thereof might be inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance, in which event such conflicting provisions, if any, in such other Ordinances are hereby repealed.

Section 6: Penalty. Any person who violates, or any person who causes or allows another person to violate, any provision of this Ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00). Each occurrence of any violation of this Ordinance shall constitute a separate offense. Each day in which any violation of this Ordinance occurs shall constitute a separate offense.

Section 7: Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after its final passage and any publication in accordance with the requirements of the City of Buda and the laws of the State of Texas.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Buda, on this the 2nd day of June 2026.

THE CITY OF BUDA, TEXAS

Lee Urbanovsky, Mayor

ATTEST:

Alicia Ramirez, City Clerk City

Attachment A

Ordinance:

§ 4.04.013 Livestock.

(C) Keeping of hogs and swine. It shall be unlawful for any person to keep, harbor or raise pigs and hogs, in any residence, except for the keeping of registered pot-bellied pigs in accordance with this Ordinance.

§ 4.04.007 Keeping dogs, cats or other domestic animals.

(a) Maximum number of dogs and cats.

It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, or harbor more than five (5) dogs or five (5) cats over three (3) months of age, or any combination of five dogs and cats at any one address or location within the city limits.

(b) Exceptions.

~~Subsection (a) and keeping of hogs, swine, potbellied or miniature pigs shall not apply to animal shelters, veterinary establishments, animal hospitals operated by a licensed veterinarian, or commercial animal establishments located on property zoned for such purposes. Such establishments, however, must meet sanitation requirements and keep animals securely caged or penned. (Remove Exceptions / DELETE)~~

City of Buda Pot-Bellied Pig Ownership Ordinance

§ 4.04.018 Pot-Bellied Pigs

(a) Purpose

The purpose of this ordinance is to allow the responsible ownership of pot-bellied pigs within the City of Buda while protecting public health, safety, sanitation, and neighborhood quality of life through regulation and permitting requirements.

(b) Definitions

For purposes of this section:

- “Pot-bellied pig” means a domesticated pig bred and kept primarily as a household companion animal and not for agricultural or commercial livestock purposes.
- “Owner” means any person keeping, harboring, possessing, or maintaining a pig within city limits.

- “Animal Control Authority” means the City of Buda Animal Control Department or its authorized representatives.

(c) Permit Required

1. No person may own, keep, or harbor a pot-bellied pig within city limits without first obtaining a valid Pig Ownership Permit issued by the City of Buda Animal Control Authority.
2. Permits shall:
 - Be valid for one (1) year from the date of issuance.
 - Require annual renewal.
 - Be non-transferable.
3. The city may establish permit fees by resolution of the City Council.

(d) Permit Application Requirements

Applicants seeking a Pig Ownership Permit shall provide:

1. Proof of current rabies vaccination and veterinary care, if required by state law.
2. Proof the pig is spayed or neutered unless exempted by a licensed veterinarian.
3. A description and photograph of the pig.
4. Proof of adequate enclosure and shelter.
5. Written acknowledgment of compliance with all city nuisance, sanitation, and animal welfare regulations.
6. Consent for inspection of the property by Animal Control prior to permit approval.

(e) Property Standards

1. Pigs must be kept in a clean and sanitary condition at all times.
2. Owners shall provide:
 - Adequate shelter,
 - Access to clean water,
 - Proper food, and
 - Secure fencing or containment.
3. Pig enclosures must not create:
 - Offensive odors,
 - Excessive noise,

- Unsanitary conditions, or
- Public health hazards.

(f) Animal Control Approval and Inspection

1. Animal Control shall inspect the property prior to issuing or renewing a permit.
2. Animal Control may deny or revoke a permit if:
 - The property fails inspection,
 - The pig is determined to be dangerous or aggressive,
 - Repeated nuisance complaints are substantiated, or
 - The owner violates city animal ordinances.
3. Owners shall allow reasonable inspections by Animal Control during normal business hours.

(g) Limitations

1. No more than two (2) pot-bellied pigs may be kept on a residential property unless otherwise approved by the city.
2. Pigs kept under this ordinance shall not be used for breeding, commercial sale, or agricultural livestock operations within residential zoning districts.

(h) Dangerous Behavior

1. If a permitted pot-bellied pig bites, attacks, or causes physical injury to any person, the Pig Ownership Permit may be revoked by the City of Buda Animal Control Authority.
2. Upon revocation of the permit, the owner shall remove all pot-bellied pigs from the property within thirty (30) calendar days.
3. Failure to remove the pig or pigs within thirty (30) days shall constitute a violation of this ordinance and may result in:
 - Daily fines assessed for each day the violation continues,
 - Citation issuance,
 - Additional enforcement action authorized by city ordinance or state law.
4. Nothing in this section shall limit the authority of Animal Control to immediately impound an animal determined to be dangerous under applicable law.

(i) Nuisance and Enforcement

1. Any pig creating a public nuisance may be subject to enforcement action.
2. Violations may result in:

- Written warnings,
- Fines,
- Permit suspension or revocation, and
- Removal of the animal as authorized by law.

(j) Grandfather Provision

Residents currently owning pot-bellied pigs at the time this ordinance takes effect shall have ninety (90) days to apply for compliance permits.

(k) Appeals

Any person denied a permit or subject to permit revocation may appeal the decision to the Municipal Court or designated hearing officer within fifteen (15) days of notice.