

ORDINANCE 2019-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HOPE, COUNTY OF WARREN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER IV, ANIMAL CONTROL, OF THE HOPE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL CODE AND ADOPTING SECTION 5-3, KEEPING OF CHICKEN OR OTHER FOWL ON LOTS LESS THAN SIX ACRES

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, in the County of Warren, New Jersey, find and determine that it is necessary to establish appropriate standards and regulations for the keeping of chickens, ducks, geese, and other fowl for non-commercial purposes within residential lots of the Township of Hope.

WHEREAS, the concept of local sustainability has fostered an interest in backyard food production;

WHEREAS, residents of the Township of Hope maintain chicken, duck, geese or other fowl as pets; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Hope officials are informed that not more than twenty chickens are sufficient to meet the needs of an average family's egg consumption and/or desires to have chicken, duck, geese or other fowl as pets; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Hope is largely built out and of a density such that special attention to how chickens, ducks, geese, and other fowl can be integrated successfully into residential neighborhoods is required;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED the Township Committee of the Township of Hope, County of Warren, in the State of New Jersey, as follows:

I. Section 1

Chapter V, Animal Control, of the Hope Township Municipal Code shall be amended and supplemented by the adoption of new Section 5-3, the title of which is to be read as follows:

“Keeping of Chickens or Other Fowl on Lots Less than Six Acres.”

Section 2

Chapter V, Animal Control, Section 5-3, Keeping of Chickens or Fowl on Lots Less than Six Acres” of the Municipal Code of the Township of Hope is hereby established to read as follows:

5-3.1 Rules and Regulations. Chickens, ducks, geese or other fowl shall not be kept for domestic use unless the following rules and regulations are strictly adhered to:

a. Such fowl or animal shall not be allowed to fly or run at large but shall be confined to an enclosure or coop with an enclosed runway suitable for sheltering.

b. No part of said coop, enclosure, or runway shall be less than 100 feet from the doors or windows of any building occupied by human beings, whether for dwelling or business purposes.

c. No more than twenty (20) chickens, ducks, geese, or other fowl shall be kept at any time on a lot less than six (6) acres.

d. There shall be no runoff of manure of said chickens, ducks, geese, or other fowl onto neighboring properties

5-3.2 Enforcement. The provisions of this article shall be enforced by the Police Department, Code Enforcement Official, Construction Officer, or Health Official of the Township of Hope.

5-3.4 Penalties. Any person(s) found to have been in violation of the provisions of this article shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$500.00.

Section 3

This ordinance shall take effect immediately after passage.

Section 4

The various parts, sections and clauses of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any part, sentence, paragraph, section or clause is adjudged to be unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

II. Repeal

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

III. Severability

If any section, subsection, clause or phrase of this ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this ordinance.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final publication as provided by law.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the foregoing Ordinance was introduced to pass on first reading at a regular meeting of the Committee of the Township of Hope held on March 13, 2019 and ordered published in accordance with the law. Said Ordinance will be considered for final reading and adoption at a regular meeting of the Township Committee to be held on April 10, 2019 at 7:00 PM, or as soon thereafter as the Township Committee may hear this Ordinance at the Municipal Building, County Route 611, Hope, New Jersey, at which time all persons interested may appear for or against the passage of said Ordinance.

Judith Fisher
Township Clerk

Adopted 4-10-19

