

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-31

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF STAFFORD, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 60 OF THE TOWNSHIP CODE, ENTITLED "ANIMALS"

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the governing body of the Township of Stafford, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as follows:

SECTION 1. The Township Code of the Township of Stafford is hereby amended and supplemented so as to amend Chapter 60, entitled "Animals," so as to amend §60-19 entitled "Sanitary Requirements," so as to amend subsection "B," which shall read as follows:

§ 60-19. Sanitary Requirements.

B. All Sheds, pens, runways, stalls or other enclosures or facilities related to animals permitted in 60-32 shall be located or maintained no less than 10 feet from the side property lines, and 10 feet from the rear property line, excluding fowl.

SECTION 2. The Township Code of the Township of Stafford is hereby amended and supplemented so as to amend Chapter 60, entitled "Animals," so as to create §60-32 entitled "Registration to keep or maintain small farm animals such as pigs, goats, rabbits and similar animals," which shall read as follows:

§ 60-32. Registration to keep or maintain small farm animals such as pigs, goats, rabbits and similar animals

A. Registration. Except as part of an active farm, no person shall keep, raise or maintain any pig, goat, rabbit, or livestock unless such person has first registered with the Townships' Department of Animal Control. There will be registration fee of \$20, which shall be renewed annually. Property owners that have registered to keep and maintain pigs, goats, rabbits, or livestock on a property must do so under the limits set forth in this chapter.

B. A minimum lot size of 0.20 acres is required for keeping any small farm animals pursuant to this chapter and shall only be permitted on properties containing a single-family home. The

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number of animals permitted will be based off animal units (AU) or live weight of the animals housed on the property. The following regulations shall apply:

Animal Unit (AU) live weight on 8,999 sq ft lot shall not exceed 300lbs.

21,780 sq. ft (1/2 acre) lot shall not exceed 500lb AU

43,560 sq. ft (1 Acre) lot shall not exceed 1000lb AU

C. Standards for keeping pig, goat, rabbit, or livestock.

- 1) Animals may be kept on a parcel of land that is no less than 8,999 square feet in size
- 2) Setbacks. The enclosures, pens, or other housing of such animals may not be located in the front yard, and shall meet the minimum applicable zoning accessory setbacks not to be less than 10 feet from the side property line and 10 feet from the rear property line.
- 3) An Annual inspection is to be conducted by the Animal Control Officer or their designee prior to any permit being renewed or granted.
- 4) Pens and other housing must be accessible at all times which will provide shade and give protection from the elements. There must be adequate shelter from inclement weather and from predators.
- 5) There must be adequate fencing in the yard to prevent animals from escaping.
- 6) Slaughtering of animals is prohibited
- 7) All standards within 60-19 Sanitary Ordinance must be met at all times.
- 8) Care and management of premises must be maintained at all times in a sanitary manner so as not to create odors and excessive noises. Any outdoor yard area shall be kept free of debris, weeds, and standing water.

D. Penalties for offenses. Any person found guilty of raising or maintaining small farm animals in violation of any provisions of this chapter shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$1,250 as per § 60-28 of the Township Code. The Township of Stafford Animal Control Department shall have the authority to revoke the registration of any person found guilty of violating the provisions of this section or any applicable health code provision of the Township of Stafford or County of Ocean.

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SECTION 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

SECTION 5. This ordinance shall take effect after second reading and publication as required by law.

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the foregoing ordinance was introduced and passed by the Township Council on first reading at a meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Stafford held on the **22nd** day of **August, 2023**, and will be considered for second reading and final passage at a regular meeting of the Township Council to be held on the **12th** day of **September, 2023** at 7:00 p.m., at the Municipal Courtroom, located at 260 East Bay Avenue, Manahawkin, New Jersey, at which time and place any persons desiring to be heard upon the same will be given the opportunity to be so heard.



SUSAN M. FARRELL, RMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK

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Introduction: August 22, 2023


Motion to Introduce: <i>Steadman</i>	Second: <i>Mower</i>	Roll Call:	Esposito	<i>absent</i>
			Henken	<i>absent</i>
			Krier	<i>yes</i>
			Otte	<i>yes</i>
			Mower	<i>yes</i>
			Steadman	<i>yes</i>
			Myhre	<i>yes</i>

Adoption: September 12, 2023

Motion to Adopt: <i>Mower</i>	Second: <i>Otte</i>	Roll Call:	Esposito	<i>absent</i>
			Henken	<i>No</i>
			Krier	<i>No</i>
			Otte	<i>yes</i>
			Mower	<i>yes</i>
			Steadman	<i>yes</i>
			Myhre	<i>yes</i>

CERTIFICATION

I, **SUSAN M. FARRELL**, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Stafford, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was duly adopted on second reading and public comment by the Stafford Township Governing Body at their meeting held on the 15th day of Sept. 2023.


 Susan M. Farrell, RMC
 Municipal Clerk, Stafford Township
 Ordinance No. 2023-31

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