

RESOLUTION #2024-7

A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILDWOOD, MISSOURI, APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR EXPENSES RELATED TO DISTANCE SAMPLING OF DEER WITHIN THE CITY.

WHEREAS, concerns were raised over the years regarding deer overpopulation in the City of Wildwood, prompting the City Council of the City of Wildwood, Missouri, to investigate whether the City had a deer population surpassing healthy and sustainable levels; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the necessity to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the City's white-tailed deer population, the City Council initiated a collaborative effort with the St. Louis County Police Department to conduct distance sampling of deer within specific portions of the City, particularly those encompassing State Route 100 and State Route 109; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the St. Louis County Police Department conducted a deer population survey that identified the following six areas within the City of Wildwood for comprehensive study: Northeast 1, Northeast 2, Southeast 1, Southeast 2, West 1, and West 2; and

WHEREAS, based on population counts conducted in 2020, it was determined that the white-tailed deer population in Wildwood had surpassed healthy and sustainable levels, causing concerns related to public safety, property damage, environmental degradation, and animal welfare; and

WHEREAS, to address these concerns, the City of Wildwood partnered with White Buffalo, Inc., a non-profit organization specializing in deer management programs nationwide, with the aim of reducing the white-tailed deer population within the City; and

WHEREAS, the first year of culling operations was planned for the Northeast 1 area, identified as having the highest deer density based on the 2020 deer population counts completed by the St. Louis County Police Department, revealing an estimated deer density of 94 deer per square mile, significantly exceeding deemed healthy and sustainable levels; and

WHEREAS, the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) issued a permit to the City of Wildwood and White Buffalo, Inc. to cull up to 300 deer in the Northeast 1 area of the City in 2024; and

WHEREAS, during the first year of culling operations, the City successfully achieved its goal of culling 300 deer within the Northeast 1 area; and

WHEREAS, as a requirement of the permit issued by the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), the City is obligated to conduct a deer population survey in the Northeast 1 area, where culling activities occurred; and

WHEREAS, the City Council also desires to assess the impact of the 2024 efforts on the deer population within the Northeast 1 area and seeks updated data regarding the City's deer population in the areas first identified in 2020; and

WHEREAS, the St. Louis County Police Department has agreed to conduct distance sampling of deer in the Northeast 1, Northeast 2, Southeast 1, Southeast 2, West 1, and West 2 areas at a cost not to exceed fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00); and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that receiving accurate and up-to-date data on the deer population within the City is crucial for informed decision-making regarding efforts to control the deer population; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the importance of fiscal responsibility, the City Council will undertake the necessary steps to amend the 2024 Municipal Budget to accommodate the expenditure, ensuring transparency and accountability in financial matters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILDWOOD, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

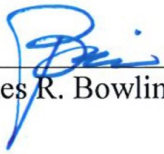
Section One. That the City Council of the City of Wildwood hereby commits to appropriating fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) for distance sampling of deer in the Northeast 1, Northeast 2, Southeast 1, Southeast 2, West 1, and West 2 areas of the City.

Section Two. That the City Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to include a budgeted expenditure equal to fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) as part of the budget amendment proposed during the Mid-Year Budget Review.

Section Three. Severability. If any term, condition, or provision of this Resolution shall, to any extent, be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder hereof shall be valid in all other respects and continue to be effective and each and every remaining provision hereof shall be valid and shall be enforced to the fullest extent permitted by law, it being the intent of the City Council that it would have enacted this Resolution without the invalid or unenforceable provisions. In the event of a subsequent change in applicable law so that the provision which had been held invalid is no longer invalid, said provision shall thereupon return to full force and effect without further action by the City and shall thereafter be binding.

Section Four. This Resolution shall be effective upon its passage and approval by the City Council of the City of Wildwood, Missouri.

Passed and Resolved by the Council of the City of Wildwood this 11th day of March, 2024.


James R. Bowlin, Mayor

ATTEST:


City Clerk