

ORDINANCE #146

CITY OF HOKAH, MINNESOTA

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE KEEPING OF CHICKENS

SECTION 1. Definitions

Brooding

The period of chicken growth when supplemental heat must be provided, due to the bird's inability to generate enough body heat.

Chicken

A domesticated bird that serves as a source of eggs or meat.

Coop

The structure for the keeping or housing of chickens permitted by the ordinance.

Fowl/Poultry

Other members of the Galliformes family, including turkeys, ducks, geese, pheasants, partridge, and quail.

SECTION 2. Chickens

1. Purpose.

It is recognized that the ability to cultivate one's own food is a sustainable activity that can also be a rewarding past time. Therefore, it is the purpose and intent of this ordinance to permit the keeping and maintenance of chicken hens for eggs and meat sources in a clean and sanitary manner that is not a nuisance to or detrimental to the public health, safety, and welfare of the community.

2. Permit required.

No person shall own, keep, harbor, or have custody of any live chickens without first obtaining a permit from the City, subject to the following conditions:

- a. The keeping of any poultry besides chickens is prohibited.
- b. Roosters are prohibited.

- c. No more than four (4) chickens shall be housed or kept on any one residential lot in any area of the city deemed residential.
- d. Chickens shall only be allowed on single family home lots.
- e. Outdoor slaughtering of chickens in city limits is prohibited.
- f. Chicken fighting shall not be allowed within city limits.
- g. Leg banding of all chickens is required. The bands must identify the owner's name, address, and telephone number.
- h. Chickens shall not be housed in a residential house or an attached or detached garage.
- i. Chickens must be confined at all times in a chicken coop or chicken run. Chicken coops and runs shall comply with the following requirements:
 - 1) Chicken coops must not exceed 60 square feet (by outside dimensions) or six feet in height, and must provide at least two square feet per chicken. Coops must be elevated with a clear open space of at least 24 inches between the ground and the floor or framing of the coops. The coops floor, foundation, and footings must be constructed to make the coop rodent resistant.
 - 2) Located in the side or rear yard.
 - 3) Meet the accessory structure setback of at least 25-feet from any residential dwelling on any adjacent lot and at least 10-feet from the property lines.
 - 4) Construction shall be adequate to prevent access by rodents.
 - 5) Chicken runs must not exceed 120 square feet or six feet in height, and may be enclosed with wood or woven wire.
 - 6) All chicken coops and runs shall be screened with a solid fence or landscaped buffer with a minimum height of four feet.
- j. All premises on which chickens are kept or maintained shall be kept clean from filth, garbage, and any substances which attract rodents. The coop and its surroundings must be cleaned frequently enough to control odor. Manure shall not be allowed to accumulate in a way that causes an unsanitary condition or causes odors detectible on another property.
- k. All food shall be stored in an enclosed, rodent proof container.
- l. Dead chickens shall be disposed of according to the Minnesota Board of Animal Health rules, which require chicken carcasses to be disposed of as soon as possible after death, usually within 48 to 72 hours. Legal forms of chicken carcass disposal include offsite burial, offsite incineration or rendering, or offsite composting.

SECTION 3. Fowl/Poultry

- 1. Possession of fowl, with the exception of chickens, is prohibited within areas deemed residential.

SECTION 4. Violations and/or penalties

1. Any person violating any sections of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a petty misdemeanor.
2. If any person is found guilty by a court for violation of this Ordinance, their permit to own, keep, harbor, or have custody of non-domestic animals and fowl shall be deemed automatically revoked and no new permit may be issued for a period of one (1) year.
3. Any person violating any conditions of this permit shall reimburse the City for all costs borne by the City to enforce the conditions of the permit including but not limited to the pickup and impounding of chickens.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall take effect upon its summary publication in the City's official newspaper. Said publication shall read as follows:

Ordinance #146 allowing the keeping of chickens in areas deemed residential, subject to specific conditions. A copy of the full ordinance is available for review at the Admin Bldg. 102 Main Street.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Hokah this 3rd day of June 2014.



James Scholze, Mayor

ATTEST:



Rodney Blank, Administrator

CITY OF HOKAH CHICKEN PERMIT

Applicant Name: _____

Address: _____

PID#: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

_____ PERMANENT PEN: Include diagram indicating pen dimensions and location, including distance from adjoining structures and property lines.

_____ NUMBER OF CHICKENS (LIMIT 4)

_____ \$20 PERMIT FEE PER YEAR

I will at all times keep the chickens in accordance with the City of Hokah Ordinance #146 and understand failure to obey such conditions will constitute a violation of the provisions of this ordinance and be grounds for cancellation of the permit. If I will no longer be keeping chickens, any pen must be removed upon expiration of the permit or within 30 days of ceasing to use the pen, whichever is earlier. Premises subject to private restrictions and/or covenants that prohibit the keeping of fowl shall void any permit issued.

This permit may be revoked or suspended for violation of Ordinance #146, following written notice and allowing applicant opportunity to appeal the revocation to the City Council.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

*****FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY*****

Inspection Date: _____ Approved _____ Denied _____

Permit Fee Paid: _____ Check: _____ Cash: _____

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Inspector Signature: _____

Permit Expiration: December 31, _____