

Town of Emerald Isle 13-12-10/01

Mayor
Eddie Barber

Mayor Pro-Tem
Floyd Messer, Jr.

Board of Commissioners
Nita Hedreen
Tom Hoover, Jr.
John Wootten
Maripat Wright



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ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 12 – OFFENSES AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS – REGARDING CONTROLLED DEER-HUNTING ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS, the Town currently has an estimated deer population along the Coast Guard Road corridor of 159 deer, and this estimate is 2 – 3 times higher than typical deer densities in surrounding areas, and

WHEREAS, the deer population continues to increase, and

WHEREAS, the Town previously completed controlled deer hunts in 2010 and 2012, and is considering a new controlled hunt for 2014 in an effort to reduce the deer population, and

WHEREAS, the Town's previous efforts have utilized qualified bowhunters for these controlled hunts, and

WHEREAS, the Town may consider utilizing qualified sharpshooters (guns) in 2015 and future years in order to increase the number of deer removed, and

WHEREAS, the Town ordinance should be amended to allow the use of guns for controlled deer hunting activities in the future,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Emerald Isle Board of Commissioners that:

1. Chapter 12 – Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions - of the Emerald Isle Code of Ordinances, Section 12-3, is hereby amended as follows:

ARTICLE XII. OFFENSES AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 12-3. Use of firearms and hunting prohibited.

It shall be unlawful to use, hunt with, or discharge within the corporate limits of the town any shotgun, rifle, pistol, pellet gun, air pistol, air rifle, bow and arrow, or other firearms, except for the purposes and in the manner set forth in this section:

- 1) when used in the defense of person or property;
- 2) when used or discharged pursuant to lawful directions of law enforcement officers;

- 3) when possessed, used, or discharged by law enforcement officers pursuant to their duties;
- 4) when using a bow and arrow, pellet gun, air pistol, or air rifle exclusively for target practice; however, the term "target practice" specifically forbids the hunting or shooting at animals by means of a bow and arrow, pellet gun, air pistol, or air rifle, or
- 5) when used by approved ~~bowhunters~~ hunters selected, authorized, and directed by the Town solely for the purpose of reducing the deer population within the town; approved ~~bowhunters~~ hunters selected by the Town for these activities shall be properly licensed, shall be required to demonstrate sufficient knowledge of safe and ethical ~~bowhunting~~ hunting practices in an urban environment, and shall be required to demonstrate shooting proficiency to the Town.

2. The Town Clerk is authorized to amend the sections as set forth above.

3. This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

Adopted this the 10th day of December, 2013, by a vote of

Commissioner(s) Hedreen, Hoover, Messer, Wright voting for,

Commissioner(s) _____ voting against, and

Commissioner(s) Wooten absent.

ATTEST:

Eddie Barber
Eddie Barber, Mayor

Rhonda Ferebee
Rhonda Ferebee, CMC, Town Clerk

