

ST. MARYS CITY COUNCIL
ST. MARYS, GEORGIA

2013-035

At the regular meeting of the St. Marys City Council, held in the St. Marys City Hall, St. Marys, Georgia:

Present:

William T. DeLoughy, Mayor
Robert L. Nutter, Councilman, Post 1
Nancy Stasinis, Councilwoman, Post 2
Jim Gant, Councilman, Post 3
Keith Post, Councilman, Post 4
John F. Morrissey, Councilman, Post 5
Sidney Howell, Councilman, Post 6

On motion of Councilmember Jim Gant, which carried 4 (Councilmembers Gant, Nutter, Post and Stasinis) to 2 (Councilmembers Howell and Morrissey), the following Ordinance amendment was adopted:

AN AMENDMENT TO THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF ST. MARYS, GEORGIA, SECTION 14, ANIMALS, ADD A DEFINITION OF EXOTIC ANIMAL or PET TO SECTION 14-1 (DEFINITIONS) AND TO MODIFY SECTION 14-7, (ANIMALS CONSTITUTING A NUISANCE – DETERMINATION).

Be it, and it is, hereby ordained by the Mayor and Council of the City of St. Marys, this 2nd day of December, 2013 that Sections of Article 14, of the Code of Ordinances, City of St. Marys, Georgia is hereby amended as follows:

1. Sec. 14-1. – Definitions

ADD the following definition:

Exotic Animal or Pet: The definition of exotic animals is a subset of the definition of animals and is as defined as follows: An exotic pet is a rare or unusual animal or pet, or an animal kept within human households which is generally t hought of as a wild species not typically kept as a pet and/or is an animal normally not present within the City of St. Marys environment or is out of place in the City of St. Marys environment. This definition will include wild animals that have been allegedly ‘tamed’. Examples of an exotic animal or pet would include but not be limited to¹:

1. Boa Constrictors
2. Lizards
3. European Polecats
4. Alligators
5. Amphibians
6. African Pygmy Hedgehogs
7. Arctic Fox
8. Bears
9. Coyotes
10. Wolves and wolf/dog hybrids
11. Fennec Foxes
12. Tame Silver Foxes
13. Tame Red Foxes
14. Sugar Gliders
15. Indian Star Tortoises

¹ Portion of the definition and list from Wikipedia website annotated by the Planning Department

16. Skunks
17. Degus
18. Genets
19. Raccoon
20. Capybaras
21. Wallaroos
22. Hares
23. Felines such as lions, tigers, bobcats, servals, and ocelots
24. Reptiles such as snakes, turtles, tortoises, and lizards
25. Arachnids such as spiders and scorpions
26. Insects such as praying mantises, Madagascar hissing cockroaches, fleas, and some beetles
27. Crustaceans such as yabbies, marron, crabs, and shrimp.
28. Rare birds
29. Numerous species of rodents such as Chinchillas, Acacia Rats, African Pygmy Dormice, African Pygmy Mice, Gambian Pouched Rats, Mouse-like Hamsters, Jirds, Jerboas, Lemmings and Zebra Mice amongst many others
30. Hyenas
31. Non-human primates

2. **Section 14-7, Animals Constituting a nuisance – Determination**

DELETE THE ENTIRE SECTION and **ADD** THE FOLLOW **NEW** SECTION 14-7.
(Note: Highlighted phrase is the new added phrase to this section)

Sec. 14-7. - Animals constituting a nuisance—Determination.

It shall be unlawful for the owner or custodian of:

- a. a domesticated animal;
- b. fowl – domesticated or wild;
- c. any animal of fowl present and treated as a pet; and/or
- d. any exotic animal, exotic fowl, and/or exotic pet (as defined herein);

to permit, whether willfully or through failure to exercise due care or control, such animal or fowl (domesticated and/or exotic) to commit a public nuisance by barking, whining, howling, hissing, squawking, or making other objectionable noises; by chasing or running after vehicles, or persons; by destroying or damaging property of another; by causing annoyance to a neighboring residence and interfering with reasonable use and enjoyment of their property; by causing a fearful reaction or negative reaction, or physical stress to any person (who reasonably perceives a potential threat to his or her safety) by its presence on any public street or in any public building or in any public park; or by doing any other thing which is so offensive as to create a nuisance.

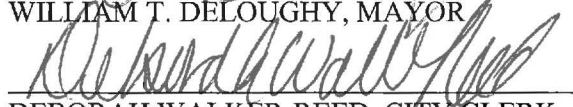
This Amendment shall become effective upon passage.



ATTEST:

**ST. MARYS CITY COUNCIL
ST. MARYS, GEORGIA**


WILLIAM T. DELOUGHY, MAYOR


DEBORAH WALKER-REED, CITY CLERK
CITY OF ST. MARYS, GEORGIA

TO FORM: