

**CITY OF FLAT ROCK**  
**WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**Ordinance No. 407**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE I, CHAPTER 14, OF  
THE CODE OF THE CITY OF FLAT ROCK BY AMENDING  
SECTION 14-4 AND ADDING SECTIONS 14-5 THROUGH 14-  
7 TO PROHIBIT THE KEEPING OF WILD OR EXOTIC  
ANIMALS.**

**THE CITY OF FLAT ROCK ORDAINS:**

**SECTION I.** Article I of Chapter 14 of the Code of the City of Flat Rock is hereby amended, by amending Section 14-4 and adding Sections 14-5 through 14-7, to read as follows:

**Sec. 14-4. Definitions.**

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning.

- (a) *Animal* means a live and vertebrate creature, fowl or reptile.
- (b) *Exotic animal* means any non-human primate, alligator, crocodile, cayman, racoon, skunk, fox, bear, sea mammal, poisonous snake, constriction snake, member of the feline species other than a domestic cat (*felis domesticus*), and member of the canine species other than a domestic dog (*canis familiaris*).
- (c) *Wild animal* means any live monkey, non-human primate, racoon, skunk, fox, leopard, panther, tiger, lion, lynx, bear, bison, bobcat or any other warm-blooded animal that can normally be found in the wild state. The term "wild animal" does not include: domestic dogs (excluding hybrids with wolves, coyotes, or jackals), domestic cats (excluding hybrids

with ocelots or margays), farm animals, rodents, captive-bred species of common cage birds, cage birds kept under license under state or federal law, aquarium amphibians, aquarium fish, and non-poisonous aquarium reptiles commonly classified as pets which are kept or housed inside dwellings as household pets.

(d) *Circus* means a commercial variety show featuring animal acts for public entertainment.

(e) *Zoological park* means any facility, other than a pet shop or kennel, which displays and exhibits one or more species of wild animals.

(f) *Performing animal exhibition* means any specialized display, act or event other than circuses in which performing animals are used.

#### **Sec. 14-5. Keeping of domestic animals and fowl.**

No person shall shelter, exhibit, market, raise, harbor, breed, house or maintain within the city any animal or domestic fowl except dogs, cats, fowl or animals commonly classified as pets.

#### **Sec. 14-6. Wild or exotic animals prohibited.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 14-4, no person shall shelter, exhibit, market, raise, harbor, breed, house or maintain within the city any wild or exotic animal.

#### **Sec. 14-7. Exceptions.**

The provisions of Section 14-5 shall not apply to:

(a) Any person, while transporting any animal, fish, fowl or reptile through the city, provided that such animal, fish, fowl or reptile is adequately restrained to avoid injury to person or damage to property;

(b) Any person while transporting any animal, fish, fowl or reptile to a licensed veterinary hospital or clinic for treatment;

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(c) The keeping of such animals is a bona fide educational or medical institution, museum or other place where they are kept as live specimens for public view or for the purpose of instruction or study;

(d) Dangerous or poisonous reptiles maintained by bona fide educational or medical institutions for the purpose of instruction or study, provided such reptiles are securely confined; or

(e) Zoological parks, performing animal exhibitions or circuses.

**SECTION II.** That all ordinances or parts of ordinances, Code of the City of Flat Rock, or parts of the Code of the City of Flat Rock, not consistent herewith are hereby repealed.

**SECTION III.** This ordinance shall be published in the News Herald newspaper as required by Charter on the 14th day of OCTOBER, 2009, but in no event shall be effective earlier than ten (10) days after enactment.

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**Richard C. Jones, Mayor**

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**Lorene Butski, City Clerk**

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the ordinance adopted by the Council of the City of Flat Rock at a meeting thereof on OCTOBER 5, 2009, the original of which proceedings is on file in my office.

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**Lorene Butski, City Clerk**