

**ORDINANCE NO. 2162**

**AN ORDINANCE REGULATING CHICKENS AND THEREBY AMENDING  
REVISED CITY CODE – 1982 BY ADDING  
CHAPTER 6-700, CHICKENS**

**The City of Coon Rapids does ordain:**

Section 1. Revised City Code - 1982 is hereby amended by adding Chapter 6-700,

Chickens as follows: (additions double underlined)

CITY OF COON RAPIDS, MINNESOTA

CHAPTER 6-700

CHICKENS

6-701 Definitions. For the purposes of this Chapter, the following definitions shall apply:

- (1) Chicken shall be defined as a domesticated bird that serves as a meat or egg source.
- (2) Hen shall be defined as a female chicken.
- (3) Coop means the structure for the keeping or housing of chickens permitted by the Chapter.
- (4) Rooster shall be defined as a male chicken
- (5) Run means a fully-enclosed and covered area attached to a coop where the chickens can roam unsupervised.

6-702 Requirements for the keeping of chickens. The following shall be required of for persons keeping chickens:

- (1) No more than four chicken hens are permitted to be maintained on one property.
- (2) Keeping of roosters is prohibited.
- (3) Food material must be stored in a closed metal container to avoid pests.
- (4) Food shall not be allowed to accumulate around feeders, run or coops and must be removed to avoid rodent and vermin.
- (5) All premises on which chickens are kept or maintained shall be kept in a clean, sanitary and healthy manner from filth, garbage, and any substances and all droppings and body excretions collected weekly. All waste must be properly disposed of or composted.
- (6) Slaughtering and processing of the chickens on the property is prohibited.
- (7) Chickens must not be housed in a residential house or in an attached or detached garage, except chickens under the age of 6 weeks for brooding purposes.
- (8) No chicken may be kept or raised in a manner as to cause injury or annoyance to persons or other animals on other property in the vicinity by reason of noise, odor, or filth.
- (9) Dead chickens must 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. Acceptable methods of chicken carcass disposal include burial or these off-site options: incineration, rendering, or composting.

6-703 Chicken Coops and Runs. All persons keeping or maintaining chickens must have a chicken coop to house the chickens and a chicken run. The coop and run must meet the following minimum requirements:

(1) Coop requirements are as follows:

(a) Be fully enclosed, wind proof, and have one square foot of window to 15 square feet of floor space.

(b) Constructed with architecturally appropriate building materials including exterior grade siding and either a metal, composite or shingled roof, or in the alternative, coop shall be purchased from a commercial source that constructs structures specifically to be used as coops for chickens.

(c) Comply with current zoning and building codes

(d) Coop shall be fully enclosed to prevent any escape by the chickens or entrance by migratory birds.

(2) Run requirements are as follows:

(a) Fence around the run enclosure shall be securely constructed with mesh type material

(b) Protective overhead netting to keep chickens separated from other animals

(3) Total area for coop and covered run is limited to no more than 60 square feet.

(4) Coop and run must be located entirely in the rear yard. Lots with shoreline on the Mississippi River or Crooked Lake are permitted to maintain a coop and run in the front yard except within the first 100 feet of lot depth.

(5) Coop and run shall be located at least 10 feet from side or rear lot lines.

(6) Coop and run shall be at least 30 feet from an adjacent property's primary residence.

(7) Coop and run must be located at least 50 feet from any well.

(8) Coop and run must be located more than six feet from the primary structure or any accessory structures on the property.

(9) Chickens must not be allowed to free range unless rear yards are completely fenced in.

(10) Coop and run must be removed and site restored if keeping of chickens is discontinued for more than 12 months.

6-704 Permit.

(1) No person shall anywhere in the City keep, harbor, or maintain care, custody, or control over any chicken without obtaining a permit issued by City.

(2) No permit shall be issued to a rental property unless the property owner provides written consent to the application. For properties located within a managed community with a

home ownership association, the association management must provide written consent to the application.

(3) This section shall not apply to veterinarians or licensed pet shops.

(4) Application for permit. Any person desiring a permit under this chapter shall make written application to Community Development Director on a form prescribed by the City:

(a) Among other things, the application shall contain the following information:

(i) A description of the real property upon which it is desired to keep the chickens.

(ii) The breed and number of chickens to be maintained on the premises.

(iii) A site plan of the property showing the location and size of the proposed chicken coop and run, setbacks from the chicken coop to property lines and surrounding buildings (including houses and buildings on adjacent lots), and the location, style, and height of fencing proposed to contain the chickens in a run or exercise area. Portable coops and cages are allowed, but portable locations must be included with the site plan.

(iv) Statements that the applicant will at all times keep the chickens in accordance with all of the conditions prescribed by the City, or modification thereof, and that failure to obey such conditions will constitute a violation of the provisions of this article and grounds for cancellation of the permit.

(v) Agreement that property may be inspected by City at all reasonable times

(vi) Such other and further information as may be required by the officer.

(b) Approval of application is subject to conditions prescribed by City. Failure to adhere to conditions is cause for cancellation of the permit and/or may result in an administrative fine.

(5) Permit Conditions. If granted, the permit shall be issued by the Community Development Director and shall state the conditions, if any, imposed upon the permitted for the keeping of chickens under this permit. The permit shall specify the restrictions, limitations, conditions and prohibitions which the City deems reasonably necessary to protect any person or neighboring use from unsanitary conditions, unreasonable noise or odors, or annoyance, or to protect the public health and safety.

(6) All permits will remain in effect until voluntarily cancelled, or revoked and are subject to revocation should the Chapter be repealed in its entirety or modified in such a way. Permits are non-transferrable.

(7) Any person aggrieved by the decision of the Community Development Director may appeal that decision to the City Council by filing a request for appeal with the City Manager within 10 calendar days after the Community Development Director's decision. The City Manager shall cause the appeal to be placed on the agenda of the next regular City Council meeting that is held not less than 10 calendar days following receipt of the appeal request. The City Council may affirm or reject the decision of the Community Development Director. The Council may add

reasonable conditions to any decision granting a license or permit or may delete any conditions previously imposed by the Community Development Director.

6-705 Violations. Failure to comply with a provision of this Chapter is a violation and the City is authorized to take one or more of the following actions:

(1) Initiate a criminal action by citation or formal complaint. A violation of this chapter is a misdemeanor.

(2) Process the violation as a public nuisance abatement matter under Chapter 8-1100.

(3) Process the violation or violations as an administrative procedures action under Chapter 2-1100.

(4) Process the matter in any other way as allowed by statute or federal law.

(5) Community Development Director may revoke permit issued under this Chapter if the person holding the permit refuses or fails to comply with this Chapter, with any regulations promulgated by the City pursuant to this Chapter, or any state or local law governing cruelty to animals or the keeping of animals. Any person whose permit is revoked shall, within ten days thereafter, humanely dispose of all chickens being owned, kept or harbored by such person, and no part of the permit fee shall be refunded.

6-706 Impounding chicken. Any chicken found at large in violation of this Chapter may be impounded by the City, and after being impounded for five business days or more without being reclaimed by the owner, may be humanely euthanized or sold. A person reclaiming any impounded chicken shall pay the cost of impounding and keeping the same.

Introduced this 19<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016.

Adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May 2016.

ATTEST:

Joan Lenzmeier  
Joan Lenzmeier, City Clerk

Jerry Koch  
Jerry Koch, Mayor

