

(First Published in the Columbus News Report _____, 2017)

ORDINANCE NO. 1403

AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, KANSAS, ADDING REGULATIONS GOVERNING CHICKENS KEPT WITHIN THE CITY, BEGINNING AT SECTION 2-110(f) OF CITY CODE CHAPTER II.

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City finds that residents desire to raise chickens within the City limits;

WHEREAS, chickens (no roosters) may be raised and maintained within the City limits under the rules and standards to be codified at Chapter II, Article 1 beginning at Section 2-110(f) in the Code of the City of Columbus, Kansas.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS, KANSAS.

SECTION 1: That Chapter II, Section 2-110(f) shall be established and amends Code 1999 as follows:

New Section 2-110(f). Chickens may be kept when maintained by owners in a safe and sanitary manner and in compliance with the following rules:

- A. Chickens are allowed only on properties within the City that have previously been designated for horses and cattle pursuant to Ordinance number 1319.
- B. Residents who intend to keep chickens in the designated areas are required to purchase an annual \$25.00 permit.
- C. The total number of permitted chickens allowed to be kept on an individual lot is one (1) hen chicken per five hundred (500) square feet of lot size, rounded down, but in no event shall the total number of permitted chickens on any lot exceed six (6).
- D. Roosters and guineas are not allowed.
- E. The number of permitted chickens (six or less) is not affected by the number of animals allowed by City Code Sections 2-124 and 2-125.
- F. Any person who owns chickens shall provide a coop or other similar shelter, adequate laying boxes, roosts and an outdoor run for the chickens.
- G. Chicken coop requirements:
 1. Such shelter shall be screened or walled in a manner that allows the chickens to be reasonably protected from harsh weather and predators.
 2. The coop shall be enclosed with a roof and at least three (3) of the four (4) sides enclosed.
 3. The coop shall provide a minimum of two (2) square feet of floor

space per adult chicken.

4. Each chicken shall be provided with a roost measuring ten (10) to twelve (12) inches in diameter and be situated at least two (2) to three (3) feet above the floor, free of drafts.

5. Nesting boxes for laying shall measure at least one (1) square foot each. One nesting box is required for every three (3) chickens.

6. The coop shall be equipped with supplemental heating for winter.

7. No coop shall be located closer than five (5) feet from any neighboring property line.

F. The outdoor run requirements include:

1. The outdoor run must provide a minimum of eight (8) square feet per chicken.

2. The outdoor run must be located in a well-drained area, fenced, and covered with wire or netting for protection.

G. The coop and run shall be kept in a clean and sanitary condition to prevent the unreasonable accumulation of waste, noxious substances, odors and vermin. Litter control shall include a layer of six (6) to eight (8) inches of wood chips or straw, removed and refreshed regularly.

H. Compliance. A designated City official shall have the right to enter the property and inspect any chicken coop at any time for the purpose of ensuring compliance with this ordinance. Compliance with this ordinance shall not be a defense to a proceeding alleging nuisance, but such compliance may be offered as evidence of the owner of the chickens who has made efforts to abate any proven nuisance.


SECTION 2: All ordinances, resolutions or policies or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby expressly repealed insofar as they conflict herewith.

SECTION 3: This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after passage and publication in the official city newspaper.

PASSED and APPROVED by the Columbus City Council this 20th day of March, 2017.


William Schaiff
Mayor

ATTEST:


Cheri Chancellor
City Clerk

