

Proposed City of Hancock Chicken Ordinance

(A) Any person who keeps chickens in the City shall obtain a permit from the City prior to acquiring the chickens. Application shall be made to the City Clerk with a fee as determined by Council resolution.

(B) The keeping of a maximum six hens per parcel provided that:

1. The principal use of the person's property is for a single-family dwelling.
2. No person shall keep any rooster.
3. No person shall slaughter or dress chickens outdoors.
4. Chickens shall be provided with a covered enclosure and/or a fenced enclosure in the rear yard.
5. The coop and enclosures must comply with all zoning ordinance requirements for accessory structures and use, including lot coverage requirements.
6. All enclosed yards and coops shall be kept a minimum of twenty-five feet from adjacent residential structures.
7. Covered enclosures shall be so constructed or repaired as to prevent rats, mice, or other rodents from being harbored underneath, within, or within the walls of the enclosure.
8. All feed and other items associated with the keeping of chickens are to be stored as to not attract rodents.
9. Hens and their enclosures must be kept in a neat, clean, and sanitary condition from offensive odors, excessive noise, or other condition that would constitute a nuisance.

(C) A person who has been issued a permit shall submit it for examination upon demand by any Police Officer or Code Enforcement Officer.

(D) The City may initiate prosecution for a civil infraction violation for any violation of this ordinance. Each day a violation exists shall constitute a separate offense.

(E) Permits may be revoked at any time if the applicant fails to comply with all applicable ordinances, rules and regulations.