

Resolution Extending Moratorium on Livestock Facilities Licensing

The Town Board of the Town of Sterling, Polk County, Wisconsin, does ordain as follows:

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2019, the Town of Sterling adopted Ordinance No. 19-0916 ~ **Moratorium on Livestock Facilities Licensing**. Adopted ordinance. Exhibit A.

WHEREAS the purpose of this ordinance was to provide the Town of Sterling time to study, review, consider and determine whether the creation of a Livestock Facilities Licensing Ordinance or other ordinances are required to protect the environment, water quality, public health or safety and property in the Town of Sterling considering the unique environment and the concerns of the Town Board and Citizens.

WHEREAS the Town of Sterling created the **Large-Scale Livestock Study Committee**. During the moratorium, the committee was tasked with the responsibility to research, analyze and synthesize scientific literature regarding the potential impacts of large-scale livestock facilities on surface water, ground water, air quality as well as impacts to property and infrastructure, and the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Town of Sterling.

WHEREAS the Study Committee invested substantial time and effort in the development and completion of the **Moratorium on Large-Scale Livestock Facility Licensing ~ Committee Report**, submitted, and received by the Town at a duly noticed Board meeting July 2021. Exhibit B.

WHEREAS the Town Board of Sterling found that it was in the best interests of the Town, and the public health, safety and general welfare of its residents and the surrounding communities, to sign the **Intergovernmental Agreement** and work with the Towns of Bone Lake, Eureka, Laketown and Luck in Polk County and Trade Lake in Burnett County, as part of the **Large-Scale Livestock Town Partnership Committee**. Exhibit C.

WHEREAS the Partnership Committee worked together to further research the potential impacts of large-scale livestock farming in general and with respect to differences and particular concerns of individual Towns in the Partnership.

WHEREAS the Partnership Committee reviewed the scientific literature and formulated a **DRAFT Ordinance ~ Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) Ordinance**. The **DRAFT Ordinance** to be presented at the December 2021 Board of Supervisors meeting.

WHEREAS the Town Board finds that extending the moratorium is necessary to allow the Town time to continue studying and reviewing the possible impacts that the issuance of permits under the **DRAFT CAFO Operations Ordinance**, or other ordinances may have of the health, safety, and general welfare of the residents of the Town, including impacts on air and water quality, public infrastructure, property values and the local economy.

WHEREAS the Town Board may at its discretion during further study, include experts such as, but not limited, in the fields of geology, hydrology, soils, public health and safety, air quality, engineering, real estate and environmental protection.

WHEREAS the Town Board shall provide opportunities for Town residents and the public to participate in the review, submit written comment and attend public hearing.


WHEREAS the Town Board will report its findings and recommendations to the public prior to the expiration of the Moratorium, and in accordance with applicable statutes and ordinances, the Sterling Town Board will act upon its findings, recommendations from Town residents, the public, expert testimony and Town consultants.

NOW, THEREFORE in consideration of the above recitals, the Town Board of the Town of Sterling wishes to extend the Moratorium on Livestock Facilities Licensing ~ Ordinance No. 19-0916, for only such time as is prudent and necessary to complete this phase of work, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Town Board expects this ordinance will need to be in place for one year from its effective date, or until the activities contemplated by the ordinance are complete and the Supervisors adopt a Livestock Facilities Licensing Ordinance.

By signing below, we affirm that this Ordinance was adopted at a duly noticed meeting of the Town held on this 20th day of December 2021.


Steve Wilson, Town Board Chair


Supervisor


Supervisor

Attested by 
Town Clerk

12/20/2021

Posted 12/22/2021