

# **VILLAGE OF ONTONAGON ORDINANCE 2025 NO. 1**

## **An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 4, Sections 4-29 and 4-30 of the Code of Ordinances for the Village of Ontonagon.**

The Village of Ontonagon ordains, that Chapter 4 (Animals) be amended as follows:

**Sec. 4-29. Prohibited animals.** No farm animal, wild animal or non-domestic animal, such as, but not limited to, a horse, cow, swine, sheep, goat, goose or duck, shall be kept in any dwelling or on the same lot or premises of any dwelling or any vacant lot in the village.

### **ARTICLE III: CHICKENS**

#### **Sec. 4-30. Keeping of Female Chickens**

It is lawful to keep Female Chickens ("chickens") in zones R1, R2, R3 and R4 under the following terms and conditions:

- (a) Any person who keeps chickens in the Village of Ontonagon shall obtain a permit from the Village prior to acquiring the chickens. Application must be made by property owner and shall be made to the Village Clerk and the fee from the permit shall be determined by Council resolution.
- (b) No more than six (6) chickens shall be allowed for each single-family dwelling with a property size of at least 0.5 acres. No chickens shall be allowed on lot sizes less than 0.5 acres.
- (c) Roosters (male chickens) are not allowed. Newly hatched roosters shall be removed within five (5) months of hatch (or within two (2) weeks of when they begin crowing).
- (d) No ducks, geese, turkeys, peafowl, or crowing hens may be kept. No other bird species shall be kept except as provided by Village Code and birds normally and generally considered household or indoor pets.
- (e) Owner must provide food and water on a daily basis.
- (f) Owner shall provide covered, ventilated and predator-resistant coop for chickens to roost with a minimum of two (2) square feet per chicken (288 square inches). Coop may be no larger than twenty-five (25) square feet.
- (g) Coop and other enclosures must be situated at least twenty-five (25) feet from any house used for human habitation, including neighbor's residential dwelling.
- (h) Coop must be on primary dwelling lot.
- (i) All enclosures shall be no closer than ten (10) feet to any lot line and twenty-five (25) feet from any dwelling on an adjacent lot.
- (j) Coops and runs shall be maintained in sanitary condition and cleaned as necessary to prevent offensive odor at property line of adjacent parcels. The owner should dispose of waste materials (feed, manure, and litter) in an

environmentally responsible manner. The materials can be composted or bagged and disposed of in the trash. Piling waste materials on the property is not acceptable.

- (k) Chickens must be kept under good animal husbandry practices including, but not limited to: mitigation of noise, smells, insects, rodents, dust or other nuisance type effects.
- (l) Chickens are allowed to free range on owner's property; however, chickens must be restricted from entering adjacent property.
- (m) Chicken fencing must be at least ten (10) feet from property line. Chicken fencing should be partly buried one (1) foot underground.
- (n) Chicken feed must be stored in rodent and predator resistant containers.
- (o) Feeders shall be suspended rather than placed on the ground to minimize attracting rodents.
- (p) Slaughtering of birds is permitted but must be conducted where it is not visible to the public and must be accomplished in a humane and sanitary fashion. All entrails and byproducts of the slaughtering process shall be discarded in accordance with Health Department regulations.
- (q) All places where any backyard chickens are kept are subject to inspection for cleanliness, health, and sanitation purposes by a Code enforcement official, animal control officer, or representative of the Village of Ontonagon, based on any complaint or observation that the requirements of this subsection are in violation.
- (r) Chickens may be kept in the backyard or side yard. Chickens shall not be kept in the front yard as defined in Section 15.27.
- (s) Chicken coops shall be considered accessory buildings and are subject to the accessory building requirements of the zone in which the property is located, if applicable. Must comply with Village zoning, if applicable.

#### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Amendatory Ordinance shall become effective 20 days (January 9, 2024) from the date of adoption and will be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the community.

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent:

ORDINANCE DECLARED ADOPTED.

Date: December 20, 2023

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By: Pamela Coey, Village President

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By: Jeffrey Sullivan, Village Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of an Ordinance adopted by the Village Council of the Village of Ontonagon, County of Ontonagon, State of Michigan, at a special meeting held on **December 20, 2023**, that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act. I further certify that the foregoing Ordinance was published on **December 27, 2023** in the following newspaper: Ontonagon Herald.

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Jeffrey Sullivan, Village Clerk