

**ATTACHMENT A**

**A RESOLUTION RECEIVING THE STAFF REPORT ON THE PETITION  
REGARDING AMENDMENT OF THE LIVESTOCK ORDINANCE  
Resolution No. 142/2008-09**

WHEREAS, on April 7, 2009, Ms. Marianne Prince of 104 Cathy Road requested that the Board of Aldermen amend the Animal Control Ordinances related to keeping livestock and fowl in urban areas; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen asked staff to provide certain follow-up information related to this request; and

WHEREAS, staff has attempted to answer the Board's questions and provide the requested information;

NOW THEREFORE, the Carrboro Board of Alderman does hereby:

1. Receive the Staff report.
2. Direct Staff to:

**Carrboro  
Police Department**

# Memo

**To:** Mayor and Board of Aldermen members  
**From:** Carolyn Hutchison, Police Chief  
**CC:** Steve Stewart, Town Manager and Mike Brough, Town Attorney  
**Date:** 6/4/2009  
**Re:** Petition regarding amendment of livestock ordinance

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**Introduction:**

On April 7, 2009, Marianne Prince of 104 Cathy Road requested that the Board amend the Animal Control Ordinances related to keeping livestock and fowl in urban areas. Specifically, Ms. Prince asked Board members to revise the ordinance "to remove ambiguous language that disproportionately categorizes all livestock as having the same needs, and all fowl as having the same needs; ... allow adjacent neighbors who so desire, to apply jointly for permits, annulling limitations of the proximity of the animal or animal housing to a joint property line; remove "tract" and "square footage" as the primary stipulation for acquisition of a permit; ... utilize Portland's Chapter 13.03 (amended February 13, 2008)... as a model for drafting Carrboro's new policy"; and "allow volunteering members of the community to participate in drafting the new policy."

The Board referred the matter to staff and asked that we provide certain follow-up information related to this request, including copies of ordinances from other jurisdictions, pertinent minutes from the Town's original meeting(s) approving the Town's Animal Control Ordinances, and descriptive information on the breed of domestic goat owned by Ms. Prince.

**Summary of the existing ordinance:**

Carrboro's Animal Control Ordinance allows the keeping of permissible livestock over four months of age within the Town in accordance with a permit issued. No permit may be issued for any livestock unless the applicant for the permit demonstrates that the livestock will be kept on a tract of land that consists of at least 40,000 square feet of land under single ownership or control; and that there is at least 20,000 square feet of land per animal; and that no fence, corral, or other similar enclosure has been erected within 15 feet of any property line; and that no barn, stable or similar structure used for the keeping of livestock other than rabbits or fowl has been erected or maintained within 50 feet of any property line or street right-of-way; and that no barn, cage, pen, or similar structure used for the keeping of rabbits or fowl has been erected or maintained within 15 feet of any property line or street right-of-way line.

Permit requirements for rabbits and fowl constitute an exception in that the tract of land where such livestock are kept must consist of at least 10,000 square feet and such livestock may be kept only on a lot used for residential purposes and only for the consumption of persons who reside at that lot.

Before issuing a permit, the administrator (Animal Control Officer) must notify the applicant and the applicant's immediate neighbors of a date and time when they may be heard on the question of whether a permit should be issued.

The Board of Aldermen minutes from the 9/24/02 revision of Carrboro's Animal Control Ordinance do not include specific discussion points related to livestock. Attorney Mike Brough recalls that, when the livestock provisions of Chapter 10 were adopted many years ago, the figure of 40,000 square feet of land was chosen in recognition that it would preclude livestock (other than rabbits and fowl) within almost every residential subdivision.

**Ms. Prince's "Quite Contrary" Farm:**

The tract of land at 104 Cathy Road consists of 0.574883 total acres (approximately 25,042 square feet) and is home to two Tennessee fainting goats, approximately 50 chickens, a rooster, and some ducks. Under the current ordinance, goats would not be permitted but chickens and ducks raised for consumption of persons who reside on the lot could be permitted. The current ordinance does not specifically limit the number of permissible fowl, but issuing a permit for approximately 50 chickens seems unreasonable. Most jurisdictions severely limit the number of permissible fowl on residential lots.

This tract of land does not meet the requirements of the Animal Control Ordinance for a variety of reasons: 1) the tract of land does not consist of at least 40,000 square feet of land; 2) there is not at least 20,000 square feet of land per animal; 3) the structure used to keep the goats has been erected and maintained within 50 feet of a property line; and 4) a structure used for the keeping of fowl has been erected and maintained within 15 feet of a property line.

**Urban Livestock:**

From New Haven to Seattle, and in places in-between, people want to keep livestock and fowl within city and town limits. Some jurisdictions allow certain livestock and fowl, with certain restrictions. Other jurisdictions do not allow any livestock or fowl, period. There is no "one size fits all" answer for this issue as each jurisdiction is different and special in its own way, and each must consider its available animal control resources.

Certainly, it is very important to consider the impact of urban livestock in residential neighborhoods, especially on relatively small lots where neighbors are in close proximity. Note that permission to keep certain animals, conditioned on obtaining the approval of neighbors, is not legally feasible under North Carolina case law. As the North Carolina Supreme Court said in *Wilcher v. Sharpe*, 236 N.C. 308, 72 S.E.2d 662 (1952), dealing with an ordinance that prohibited the erection of a gin or mill in the town without the consent of neighboring property owners: "Where the effectiveness of an ordinance determining the use of property for a lawful purpose is conditioned upon the assent or permission of private persons, such as the owners of adjacent property, it must be held invalid, as it involves the delegation of legislative power to private individuals."

**Possible alternatives for the Board's consideration:**

1) Substantially rewrite the provisions of the ordinance dealing with livestock, perhaps using as models one or more of the ordinances suggested by Ms. Prince. Please note, however, that while Ms.

Prince suggests that the Town adopt Portland's "specified animal facility" standards, she would not meet Portland's permitting requirements because her livestock are kept and roam within 50 feet of her residence. Also note that Ms. Prince recognized Seattle as a progressive city that recently adapted their ordinances "to provide flexibility for the current needs of conservation and sustainability." If she were living in Seattle, Ms. Prince would not be permitted to keep all of the chickens that she currently keeps on the property;

- 2) Amend the existing ordinance by making a limited exception for the type of goats requested by Ms. Prince (just as the ordinance makes a limited exception for rabbits and chickens); and
- 3) Make no changes to the existing ordinance.

**Staff recommendation:**

Staff does not recommend Option 1 described above. Carrboro's current ordinance is not substantially different from other such municipal ordinances, and our ordinance has served us very well for many years.

If the Board should choose to amend the existing ordinance by making a limited exception for Ms. Prince's Tennessee fainting goats, then the ordinance should also be revised to allow the neighbors to appeal the *granting* of a permit for goats. Currently, the only appeal process provided is for the denial or revocation of a permit under the ordinance. Standards for such denial or revocation are described in Chapter 10, Section 10-5(f).

If the Board wants to amend the ordinance to allow these goats, then presumably the ordinance would contain some limitations on the number of goats allowed, location of their shelters, etc. If the Board were to allow them, then just an "I don't want them next to my house" objection from a neighbor would not be sufficient to deny a permit. Something more would be required, for example, a showing that a neighbor has a child with allergies that would be adversely affected.

**RELEVANT EXCERPTS FROM THE CURRENT ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE**

**Town Code Chapter 10, Article 1 (15)** defines livestock as follows: “Animals raised for the production of meat, milk, eggs, fiber or used for draft or equestrian purposes, including but not limited to horses, mules, cows, pigs, goats, llamas, ostriches, sheep, fowl (such as chickens, ducks, turkeys, etc.), rabbits, and all other animals that typically are kept primarily for productive or useful purposes rather than as pets.”

**Chapter 10, Article 1 (10)** defines a domestic animal as follows: “A domesticated or tame animal that is kept principally as a pet, except that livestock (other than rabbits kept as pets and not for productive purposes) and wild animals shall not be regarded as domestic animals.”

**Article III, Section 10-5(b)** states, “No person may keep within the town any permissible livestock over four (4) months of age except in accordance with a permit issued pursuant to subsection (c)”, which states, “Subject to subsections(d) and (e), no permit may be issued for any livestock unless the applicant for the permit demonstrates that the livestock will be kept on a tract of land that satisfies each of the following conditions: (1) The tract shall consist of at least 40,000 square feet of land under single ownership or control; (2) There shall be at least 20,000 square feet of land per animal; (3) No fence, coral, or other similar enclosure shall be erected within 15 feet of any property line; (4) No barn, stable or similar structure used for the keeping of livestock other than rabbits or fowl shall be erected or maintained within 50 feet of any property line or street right-of-way; (5) No barn, cage, pen, or similar structure used for the keeping of rabbits or fowl shall be erected or maintained within 15 feet of any property line or street right-of-way line.”

**Article III, Section 10-5(d)** allows the establishment, with the consent of the affected adjoining property owners, of a commonly owned or used fence, barn or other enclosure, all of which is located along or near a common property line.

**Article III, Section 10-5(e)** deals specifically with permit requirements for rabbits and fowl. Section 10-5 (c) (3) and (c) (4) apply equally to rabbits and fowl but the following conditions apply as well: (1) The tract where such livestock are kept shall consist of at least 10,000 square feet; (2) Such livestock may be kept only on a lot used for residential purposes and only for the consumption of persons who reside at that lot. Such livestock may not be kept for commercial purposes.

**Article III, Section 10-5 (f)** allows the administrator to issue the permit required by this section unless he finds that: (1) The applicant has failed to comply with subsection (c); (2) The animal for which the permit is requested poses a substantial danger of harm to any person, animal, or property; (3) The animal for which the permit is requested is likely to or does interfere with the use and enjoyment of neighboring properties because of offensive noise or odor or for other reasons; (4) The animal for which the license is requested otherwise constitutes a threat to the public health or safety.

**Article III, Section 10-5(g)** requires the administrator to notify the applicant and the applicant's immediate neighbors of a date and time when they may be heard on the question of whether a permit should be issued. After the hearing, the administrator shall set forth in writing his reasons for the issuance or denial of the permit and shall furnish a copy thereof to any person requesting the same.

Petition to Alter Ordinances regarding Keeping Livestock and Fowl in Urban Areas  
RESIDENTS OF CARRBORO:

We, as residents and land owners of Carrboro, request necessary revisions to be made to Article I Section 10-1 and Article III Section 10-5, in an order to allow Carrboro residents to practice environmental sustainability and conservation in regards to the animals they choose to keep as pets.

WHEREAS, we take great pride in our community's role as the leader in environmental stewardship and sustainability in North Carolina, and

WHEREAS, the documents in question have not been updated since the early 1990's, and do not reflect the current and future trends of sustainability, which is regarded globally as a key factor in the reduction of greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming, and

WHEREAS, the documents in question do not address our current economic crisis, in which many households find themselves struggling now more than ever to make ends meet, and desire the freedom to produce more of their food from their land, and

WHEREAS, the documents in question do not address the current status of our American food systems, in which agrarian food traditions are dying out, farmland is disappearing, and various species of livestock and plants are becoming threatened, endangered, and extinct, and

WHEREAS, the documents in question make no distinctions between various species of livestock, other than rabbits and fowl, and require the landowner to provide 40,000 square feet of contiguous tract per animal, regardless of size, species and actual needs and provisions, and

WHEREAS, the documents in question require 10,000 square feet of tract for rabbits and fowl, and

WHEREAS, a full size goat (120-170 lbs) needs only 200 square feet of outdoor space and 15 square feet of shelter per goat, and

WHEREAS, a miniature goat (35-70 lbs) needs only 130 square feet of outdoor space and 10 square feet of shelter per goat, and

WHEREAS, poultry needs vary based on number of birds, breed of birds, housing style (tractors, coops) and need to be addressed on an individual basis, and

WHEREAS, American Livestock Breeds Conservation Priority lists currently include 3 breeds of Asses, 7 breeds of goats, 10 breeds of pigs, 23 breeds of sheep, 22 breeds of horses, 19 breeds of cattle, 11 breeds of rabbits, 55 breeds of chickens, 13 breeds of ducks, 11 breeds of geese, 14 breeds of turkeys, with populations categorized as either critical, threatened, watch, recovering, or under study, and

WHEREAS, progressive cities and towns throughout the US, including Portland, Oregon and Seattle, Washington, have recently adapted their ordinances to provide flexibility for the current needs of conservation and sustainability, and

WHEREAS, the document in question requires that the tract of land where an animal is to be housed be under single ownership, however, neighbors should have the right to decide to share land for the purposes of raising happy, healthy livestock.

THEREFORE, as residents and land-owners in Carrboro, we submit this petition for the revision of the aforementioned articles regarding livestock permits. We implore the board aldermen to consider making the following steps towards drafting a more contemporary ordinance:

- 1) Revise the current document to remove ambiguous language that disproportionately categorizes all livestock as having the same needs, and all fowl as having the same needs.
- 2) Includes clauses within the document that allow adjacent neighbors who so desire, to apply jointly for permits, annulling limitations of the proximity of the animal or animal housing to a joint property line.
- 3) Remove "tract" and "square footage" as the primary stipulation for acquisition of a permit. Instead, utilize Portland's Chapter 13.05 (amended February 13, 2008), which lists the following as criteria for keeping livestock, as a model for drafting Carrboro's new policy:

1. The facility is in good repair, capable of being maintained in a clean and in a sanitary condition, free of vermin, obnoxious smells and substances;
2. The facility will not create a nuisance or disturb neighboring residents due to noise, odor, damage or threats to public health;
3. The facility will reasonably prevent the specified animal from roaming at large. When necessary for the protection of the public health and safety, the Director may require the specified animal be kept or confined in a secure enclosure so that the animal will not constitute a danger to human life or property;
4. Adequate safeguards are made to prevent unauthorized access to the specified animal by general members of the public;
5. The health or well being of the animal will not be in any way endangered by the manner of keeping or confinement;
6. The facility will be adequately lighted and ventilated;
7. The facility is located on the applicant's property so as to be at least 15 feet from any building used or capable of being used for human habitation, not including the applicant's own dwelling. Facilities for keeping bees, such as beehives or apiaries, shall be at least 15 feet from any public walkway, street or road, or any public building, park or recreation area, or any residential dwelling. Any public walkway, street, or road or any public building, park or recreation area, or any residential dwelling, other than that occupied by the applicant, that is less than 150 feet from the applicant beehives or apiaries shall be protected by a six foot hedgerow, partition, fence or similar enclosure around the beehive or apiary, installed on the applicant's property.
8. If applicable, the structure must comply with the City's building code and must be consistent with the requirements of any applicable zoning code, condition of approval of a land use decision or other land use regulation; and
9. The applicant shall demonstrate, to the Director's satisfaction, sufficient ability to respond to any claims for damages for personal injury or property damage which may be caused by any specified animal kept at the facility.
  - a. The Director may require the applicant to provide proof of sufficient liability insurance to respond to damages for any personal or property damages caused by any specified animal kept at the facility. The insurance shall provide that the insurance shall not be canceled or materially altered so as to be out of compliance with the requirements of this Chapter without thirty (30) days written notice first being given to the Director. The applicant shall provide a certificate of insurance to the Director within ten (10) days of the issuance of the permit. The Director shall revoke the permit upon any failure to maintain sufficient liability insurance as required under this subsection.

(information obtained at <http://www.portlandonline.com/auditor/index.cfm?c=28228>)

- 4) Allow volunteering members of the community to participate in drafting the new policy.

By signing this document, I acknowledge that I am a land-owning resident of Carrboro, that I have read this document, and that I agree with the scope of changes requested in this document. I am also aware that I may only sign this petition one time.

Name:

Address:

Comment:

Name:	Address:	Comment:



**EXCERPT FROM 9/24/02 BOARD OF ALDERMEN MINUTES**

**A REQUEST TO ADOPT REVISIONS TO THE TOWN'S ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE**

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen have been requested to consider adopting an ordinance prohibiting the display of wild and exotic animals within Orange County. The town staff recommended that the animal control ordinance be amended to include the requested changes. In addition, the town staff requested that the Board approve additional modifications to the current ordinance and that Chapter 5 of the Town Code (Noise Generally) be amended to include barking dogs.

Amanda Stipe, the town's Animal Control ordinance, answered the Board's questions.

Mayor Nelson requested that staff review how other jurisdictions deal with pit bulls and schedule a Board discussion of this matter at a later date.

Alderman McDuffee requested that the staff consider ways to publicize existing ordinances that deal with clean up. She also requested a further discussion of requiring residents to clean up after dogs.

Alderman Dorosin suggested amending the ordinance to allow residents to keep nonpoisonous, non-giant, non-crushing snakes and reptiles, but that there will be no displaying of any kind.

Alderman Broun requested some restraint on cats.

Ms. Stipe pointed out the sections of the ordinance dealing with cats.

Alderman Herrera requested the number of pet owners in Carrboro.

MOTION WAS MADE BY JOHN HERRERA AND SECONDED BY MARK DOROSIN TO ADOPT THE REVISED ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE AND THE ORDINANCE ENTITLED, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TOWN CODE TO CLARIFY THAT THE LIST OF PROHIBITED NOISES INCLUDES DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS THAT ENGAGE IN REPEATED BARKING OR OTHER NOISE MAKING BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 11:00 P.M. AND 7:00 A.M." VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE ALL

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POL → Government → Elected Officials → Auditor → Charter, Code & Policies → City Code & Charter → Online Code & Charter → Title 13 Animals → **Chapter 13.05 Specified Animal Regulations**

## Chapter 13.05 Specified Animal Regulations

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-Note

(New Chapter substituted by Ordinance No. 166281, effective Feb. 24, 1993.)

### 13.05.005 Definitions.

(Amended by Ordinance Nos. 172635 and 181539, effective February 15, 2008.) As used in this Chapter, unless the context requires otherwise:

- A. "Director"** means the Director of the Multnomah County Health Department Vector and Nuisance Control, or the director's designee.
- B. "Keeper"** means any person or legal entity who harbors, cares for, exercises control over or knowingly permits any animal to remain on premises occupied by that person for a period of time not less than 72 hours or someone who accepted the animal for purposes of safe keeping.
- C. "Livestock"** means animals including, but not limited to, fowl, horses, mules, burros, asses, cattle, sheep, goats, llamas, emu, ostriches, rabbits, swine, or other farm animals excluding dogs and cats.
- D. "Person"** means any natural person, association, partnership, firm, or corporation.
- E. "A Secure Enclosure"** shall be:
1. A fully fenced pen, kennel or structure that shall remain locked with a padlock or a combination lock. Such pen, kennel or structure must have secure sides, minimum of five feet high, and the director may require a secure top attached to the sides, and a secure bottom or floor attached to the sides of the structure or the sides must be embedded in the ground no less than one foot. The structure must be in compliance with the jurisdiction's building code.
  2. A house or garage. Where a house or garage is used as a secure enclosure, the house or garage shall have latched doors kept in good repair to prevent the accidental escape of the specified animal. A house, garage, patio, porch, or any part of the house or condition of the structure is not a secure enclosure if the structure would allow the specified animal to exit the structure of its own volition; or
- F. "Specified Animals"** means bees or livestock.
- G. "Specified Animal Facility"** means a permitted site for the keeping of one or more specified animals, including but not limited to a stable, structure, or other form of enclosure.
- H. "Stable"** means any place used for housing one or more domesticated animals or livestock, whether such stable is vacant or in actual use.
- I. "Sufficient liability insurance"** means, at a minimum, insurance in a single incident amount of not less than \$50,000 for personal injury and property damages, covering all claims per occurrence, plus costs of defense.

### 13.05.010 Administration and Enforcement; Powers and Duties of Director.

- A.** It shall be the responsibility of the Director, and such other persons as the Director may designate, to enforce the provisions of this Chapter.
- B.** Persons designated by the Director to enforce this Chapter shall bear satisfactory identification reflecting the authority under which they act, which identification shall be shown to any person requesting it.
- C.** The Director may adopt procedures and forms necessary for administering and exercising the authority under this Chapter.

### 13.05.015 Permit Required for Specified Animal Facility.

(Amended by Ordinance Nos. 167649, 168900 and 181539, effective February 15, 2008.)

[Title 13 Animals](#)

[Chapter 13.05 Specified Animal Regulations](#)

[Chapter 13.08 Administration and Enforcement](#)

[Chapter 13.09 Licensing of Dogs](#)

[Chapter 13.10 General Animal Regulations](#)

[Chapter 13.11 Prohibited and Regulated Conduct](#)

[Chapter 13.12 Prosecution of Violations; Disposition of Animals; Penalties](#)

[Chapter 13.13 Classification of Dogs](#)

[Chapter 13.15 Fee Schedule](#)

[Chapter 13.16 Rules and Regulations Generally](#)

**A.** No person shall operate or maintain any specified animal facility unless a permit has first been obtained from the Director.

**B.** Applications for specified animal facility permits shall be made upon forms furnished by the Director, and shall be accompanied by payment of the required fee. Specified animal facility permits shall be valid from the date of issuance until such time as the Director determines by inspection that the facility is not being maintained in compliance with the issuance criteria. Applications for a specified animal facility permit shall be accompanied by adequate evidence, as determined by the Director, that the applicant has notified all of the property owners and residents within 150 feet of the property lines of the property on which the specified animal facility will be located.

**C.** The Director shall issue a specified animal facility permit to the applicant, only after the Director has reviewed a completed and signed application which grants the Director permission to enter and inspect the facility at any reasonable time, and assuring the Director that the issuance criteria have been met. If the Director has reasonable grounds to believe that an inspection is necessary, the Director shall inspect the facility in order to determine whether the issuance criteria have been met. The criteria for issuing a specified animal facility permit are as follows:

1. The facility is in good repair, capable of being maintained in a clean and in a sanitary condition, free of vermin, obnoxious smells and substances;
2. The facility will not create a nuisance or disturb neighboring residents due to noise, odor, damage or threats to public health;
3. The facility will reasonably prevent the specified animal from roaming at large. When necessary for the protection of the public health and safety, the Director may require the specified animal be kept or confined in a secure enclosure so that the animal will not constitute a danger to human life or property;
4. Adequate safeguards are made to prevent unauthorized access to the specified animal by general members of the public;
5. The health or well being of the animal will not be in any way endangered by the manner of keeping or confinement;
6. The facility will be adequately lighted and ventilated;
7. The facility is located on the applicant's property so as to be at least 15 feet from any building used or capable of being used for human habitation, not including the applicant's own dwelling. Facilities for keeping bees, such as beehives or apiaries, shall be at least 15 feet from any public walkway, street or road, or any public building, park or recreation area, or any residential dwelling. Any public walkway, street, or road or any public building, park or recreation area, or any residential dwelling, other than that occupied by the applicant, that is less than 150 feet from the applicant beehives or apiaries shall be protected by a six foot hedgerow, partition, fence or similar enclosure around the beehive or apiary, installed on the applicant's property.
8. If applicable, the structure must comply with the City's building code and must be consistent with the requirements of any applicable zoning code, condition of approval of a land use decision or other land use regulation; and
9. The applicant shall demonstrate, to the Director's satisfaction, sufficient ability to respond to any claims for damages for personal injury or property damage which may be caused by any specified animal kept at the facility.

a. The Director may require the applicant to provide proof of sufficient liability Insurance to respond to damages for any personal or property damages caused by any specified animal kept at the facility. The insurance shall provide that the insurance shall not be canceled or materially altered so as to be out of compliance with the requirements of this Chapter without thirty (30) days written notice first being given to the Director. The applicant shall provide a certificate of insurance to the Director within ten (10) days of the issuance of the permit. The Director shall revoke the permit upon any failure to maintain sufficient liability insurance as required under this subsection.

**D.** Each specified animal facility permit issued by the Director shall be conditioned on the applicant maintaining the facility in compliance with each of the issuance criteria. If the Director determines by inspection that the specified animal facility is not being maintained in compliance with the issuance criteria, the specified animal facility permit shall no longer be valid and shall be revoked. Before operation of the facility resumes, submission of a new application for a specified animal facility permit accompanied by payment of the permit fees shall be required, and the facility shall not be allowed to operate until such time as the Director has inspected the facility and determined that all issuance criteria have been met. The Director may impose other conditions on the permit, including but not limited to, a bond or security deposit necessary to protect the public health or safety.

**E.** A person keeping a total of three or fewer chickens, ducks, doves, pigeons, pygmy goats or rabbits shall not be required to obtain a specified animal facility permit. If the Director determines that the keeper is allowing such animals to roam at large, or is not keeping such animals in a clean and sanitary condition, free of vermin, obnoxious smells and substances, then the person shall be required to apply for a facility permit to keep such animals at the site.

**F.** These provisions for specified animal control are intended to provide city-wide regulations for keeping specified animals within the City. However, due to the variety of animals covered by these regulations and the circumstances under which they may be kept, these regulations should be applied with flexibility. Variances provide flexibility for unusual situations, while maintaining control of specified animals in an urban setting. The Director should grant variances if the proposal meets the intended purpose of the regulation, while not complying with the strict literal requirements.

1. Applicants for a specified animal permit may request a variance from the requirements set forth in Section 13.05.015 C. In determining whether to grant a variance request, the Director shall consider the following criteria:

- a. Impacts resulting from the proposed variance will be mitigated as much as possible;
  - b. If more than one variance is proposed, the cumulative impact would still be consistent with the overall purpose of the regulations; and,
  - c. If in a residential area, the proposed variance will not significantly detract from the public health or safety in the area.
2. The Director may impose conditions on any variance, as may be appropriate to protect the public health or safety or the health or safety of the animals.
- a. The Director may, at any time, revoke any variance, or amend the conditions thereof, as may be appropriate to protect the public health or safety or the health or safety of the animals.
  - b. Failure to comply with the conditions of any variance issued under Section 13.05.015 F is a violation of this Chapter.

### 13.05.020 Permit Fees.

(Amended by Ordinance Nos. 168900 and 181539, effective February 15, 2008.)

- A. The application for a specified animal facility permit shall be accompanied by a nonrefundable fee.
- B. The Director may establish application fees at amounts reasonably calculated to cover the costs of administration and enforcement of the specified animal facility program. Before such fees may become effective, the Director shall submit the fee schedule to the Portland City Council for review and approval by ordinance.

### 13.05.025 Unsanitary Facilities and revocation of permit.

- A. All specified animal facilities shall be open at all times for inspection by the Director. If an inspection reveals that any provision in this Chapter is violated, the Director shall give written notice to the keeper or other responsible person, specifying the violation and requiring that the violation be corrected within 48 hours. If the violation is not corrected within the period specified, the Director may revoke the specified animal facility permit.
- B. The Director may revoke any specified animal facility permit upon determining that the facility no longer meets the conditions required for the issuance of a permit or that the permit was issued upon fraudulent or untrue representations or that the person holding the permit has violated any of the provisions of this Chapter.

### 13.05.030 Seamless Banded Pigeon Permits.

Any keeper of pigeons generally known as "seamless" banded pigeons, recognized by the National Association of Pigeon Fanciers, such as flying tippers, tumblers, homing pigeons or rollers, may, after obtaining the signed consent of two-thirds of the total number of property owners and occupants residing within property 200 feet from the property lines of the property where such pigeons are kept, obtain from the Director a permit to release such pigeons for exercise or performance at stated times or intervals. The Director may impose such other conditions on the permit as are necessary to maintain the public safety and health.

### 13.05.035 Livestock within Fifty Feet of Residence.

It is unlawful to picket any livestock, or allow any livestock to roam, so that it may approach within 50 feet of any building used as a residence, or any commercial building in which foodstuff is prepared, kept or sold.

### 13.05.040 Diseased Animals to be Confined.

- A. It is unlawful for any specified animal keeper who has reason to believe that the animal is infected with mange, eczema or other disease contagious to animals, or who has been notified as provided in Subsection C hereof, not to confine such animal until the animal is examined and declared free of disease by a licensed veterinarian or by the Director.
- B. It is unlawful for any specified animal keeper who has reason to believe that the animal is infected with ringworm, hepatitis, rabies or other disease contagious to humans, or who has been notified as provided in Subsection C hereof, not to confine such animal until the animal is examined and declared free of disease by a licensed veterinarian or by the Director.
- C. If the Director finds, after investigation, that there is a preponderance of evidence indicating that any specified animal is infected with a contagious disease, the Director shall issue written notice to the keeper of such animal, requiring the keeper to confine such animal until it is examined and declared free of disease by a licensed veterinarian or the Director.
- D. The Director may initiate an investigation under Subsection C hereof upon receipt of a signed statement by any person indicating that a certain animal is infected with a contagious disease.

### 13.05.045 Civil Penalties and Additional Restrictions.

(Amended by Ordinance No. 181539, effective February 15, 2008.) All enforcement of this Chapter by the Director shall follow the procedures set forth in Multnomah County Code Chapters 15.225 - 15.236

### 13.05.050 Appeals.

(Repealed by Ordinance No. 181539, effective February 15, 2008.)

F. 4



## City of Seattle Legislative Information Service

### Seattle Municipal Code

*Information retrieved June 3, 2009 2:18 PM*

Title 23 - LAND USE CODE  
Subtitle III Land Use Regulations  
Division 2 Authorized Uses and Development Standards  
Chapter 23.42 - General Use Provisions

#### **SMC 23.42.052 Keeping of Animals.**

The keeping of small animals, farm animals, domestic fowl and bees is permitted outright in all zones as an accessory use to any principal use permitted outright or to a permitted conditional use, in each case subject to the standards of this Section.

A. Small Animals. Up to three (3) small animals may be kept accessory to each business establishment or dwelling unit on a lot, except as follows:

1. In no case is more than one (1) miniature potbelly pig allowed per business establishment or dwelling unit (see subsection B of this section).
2. In single-family zones,
  - a. accessory dwelling units shall not be considered separate dwelling units for the purpose of this section;
  - b. up to four (4) small animals are permitted on lots of at least twenty thousand (20,000) square feet; and
  - c. one (1) additional small animal is permitted for each five thousand (5,000) square feet of lot area in excess of twenty thousand (20,000) square feet. Accessory structures, including kennels, for four (4) or more animals must be at least ten (10) feet from any other lot in a residential zone.

B. Miniature Potbelly Pigs. That type of swine commonly known as the Vietnamese, Chinese, or Asian Potbelly Pig (*Sus scrofa bittatus*) may be kept as a small animal, provided that no swine that is greater than twenty-two (22) inches in height at the shoulder or more than one hundred fifty (150) pounds in weight may be kept in the City.

C. Domestic Fowl. Up to three (3) domestic fowl may be kept on any lot in addition to the small animals permitted in subsection A. For each one thousand (1,000) square feet of lot area in excess of the minimum lot area required for the zone or, if there is no minimum lot area, for each one thousand (1,000) square feet of lot area in excess of five thousand (5,000) square feet, one (1) additional domestic fowl

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may be kept.

D. Farm Animals. Cows, horses, sheep and other similar farm animals are permitted only on lots of at least twenty thousand (20,000) square feet. The keeping of swine is prohibited, except for miniature potbelly pigs allowed under subsection B of this section.

1. One (1) farm animal for every ten thousand (10,000) square feet of lot area is permitted.
2. Farm animals and structures housing them must be kept at least fifty (50) feet from any lot in a residential zone.

E. Beekeeping. Beekeeping is permitted outright as an accessory use, when registered with the State Department of Agriculture, provided that:

1. No more than four (4) hives, each with only one (1) swarm, shall be kept on lots of less than ten thousand (10,000) square feet.
2. Hives shall not be located within twenty-five (25) feet of any lot line except when situated eight (8) feet or more above the grade immediately adjacent to the grade of the lot on which the hives are located or when situated less than eight (8) feet above the adjacent existing lot grade and behind a solid fence or hedge six (6) feet high parallel to any property line within twenty-five (25) feet of a hive and extending at least twenty (20) feet beyond the hive in both directions.

F. Miniature Goats. The types of goats commonly known as Pygmy, Dwarf and Miniature Goats may be kept as small animals, provided that male miniature goats are neutered and all miniature goats are dehorned. Nursing offspring of miniature goats licensed according to the provisions of this Code may be kept until weaned, no longer than 12 weeks from birth, without violating the limitations of subsection A.

(Ord. 122508 , Section 1, 2007; Ord. 122311 , Section 23, 2006)

Definitions of terms used in Land Use Code.

**Search for ordinances passed since the last SMC update (ordinances codified through Ordinance 122825) that may amend Section 23.42.052 .**

*Note: this feature is provided as an aid to users, but is not guaranteed to provide comprehensive information about related recent ordinances. See also Recent Legislation and Council Bills and Ordinances.*

*For research assistance, contact the Seattle City Clerk's Office at 206-684-8344, or by e-mail at [clerk@seattle.gov](mailto:clerk@seattle.gov). For interpretation or explanation of a particular SMC section, please contact the relevant City department.*



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## City of Seattle Legislative Information Service

Information retrieved on June 3, 2009 2:21 PM

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**Council Bill Number: 116014**  
**Ordinance Number: 122508**

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AN ORDINANCE relating to land use and zoning and the keeping of small animals, amending Sections 23.42.052, 9.25.022, 9.25.030, 9.25.050, 9.25.052, 9.25.080, 9.25.084, 9.25.100; and 9.26.020 to allow the keeping of miniature goats and providing for the licensing and licensing fees therefore.

**Date introduced/referred:** September 10, 2007

**Date passed:** September 24, 2007

**Status:** Passed

**Vote:** 7-0 (Excused: Licata, McIver)

**Date of Mayor's signature:** October 3, 2007  
 (about the signature date)

**Committee:** Environment, Emergency Management and Utilities

**Sponsor:** CONLIN

**Index Terms:** ANIMALS, ANIMAL-CONTROL, LICENSES, FEES

### Text

ORDINANCE \_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE relating to land use and zoning and the keeping of small animals, amending Sections 23.42.052, 9.25.022, 9.25.030, 9.25.050, 9.25.052, 9.25.080, 9.25.084, 9.25.100; and 9.26.020 to allow the keeping of miniature goats and providing for the licensing and licensing fees therefore.

WHEREAS, goats, along with dogs are the earliest animals domesticated by humans, roughly 10,000 years ago; and

WHEREAS, numerous cultures worldwide keep goats and more people worldwide drink goat milk than any other animal's; and

WHEREAS, many immigrants from all over the world are familiar with keeping goats; and

WHEREAS, miniature goats are considered excellent pets due to their good-natured personalities, friendliness, faithfulness, and hardy constitution; and

WHEREAS, miniature goats are no bigger than a number of species of large domestic dogs; miniature goats average around 24" tall and 50-

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100 pounds, compared to some large dogs that average around 30" tall and can weigh up to 200 pounds; and

WHEREAS, miniature goats can be a sound way to provide milk and cheese to families if the milk is properly pasteurized prior to consumption or cheese production; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous benefits for urban sustainability that goats provide including that their manure is an excellent source of garden compost provided it is properly composted to reach temperatures that will destroy potentially harmful pathogens, their hair is a renewable source of fiber, and goats can provide an alternative to lawn mowers; and

WHEREAS, goats are valuable for controlling noxious weeds and clearing brush and undergrowth; and

WHEREAS, serious illnesses in people due to infections from goats are rare and disease risk can be reduced through proper sanitation and good husbandry; and

WHEREAS, female and neutered male goats do not generate significant odors, and

WHEREAS, municipalities including Portland, Oregon and Everett, Washington have codes that

permit miniature goats to be kept; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 23.42.052 of the Seattle Municipal Code is amended including the addition of a new subsection F as follows:

23.42.052 Keeping of Animals

The keeping of small animals, farm animals, domestic fowl, bees and miniature goats, is permitted outright in all zones as an accessory use to any principal use permitted outright or to a permitted conditional use, in each case subject to the standards of this Section.

\* \* \*

F. Miniature Goats. The types of goats commonly known as Pygmy, Dwarf and Miniature Goats may be kept as small animals, provided that male miniature goats are neutered and all miniature goats are dehorned. Nursing offspring of miniature goats licensed according to the provisions of this Code may be kept until weaned, no longer than 12 weeks from birth, without violating the limitations of subsection A.

Section 2. Section 9.25.022 of the Seattle Municipal Code is amended by adding a new definition as follows:

9.25.022 Definitions - K - O

As used in this chapter, except where a different meaning is plainly apparent from the context, the following definitions apply:



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A. "Miniature goat" means those types of goats commonly known as Pygmy, Dwarf and Miniature Goats.

B. "Owner" means a person who harbors, keeps, causes or permits an animal to be harbored or kept, or who has an animal in his/her possession or custody or who permits an animal to remain on his/her premises, or who has legal title to an animal.

Section 3. Subsection A of Section 9.25.030 as last amended by Ordinance 121339 is amended as follows:

9.25.030 Authority of the Director

A. The Director is authorized to:

1. Make rules for the interpretation and implementation of this chapter, pursuant to the Administrative Code;

2. Accept the surrender of animals to the City Animal Shelter;

3. Permit or deny adoption from the City Animal Shelter of animals that have been surrendered to the City, or which are stray or under detainment and unclaimed after the expiration of a holding period;

4. Direct immediate humane disposal of: (a) any exotic animal when alternatives, such as placing the animal in a zoo or outside of the City, have been exhausted, (b) any animal surrendered to the City for humane disposal, (c) any animal determined by the Seattle Municipal Court or any other court of law to be a nuisance, (d) any animal involved in a court proceeding in which the owner pled guilty or was found to be guilty of owning a nuisance or dangerous animal or in which the owner pled guilty or was found to be guilty of negligent control of an animal, (e) any animal unclaimed after the expiration of a holding period, (f) any animal determined by the Director to be dangerous pursuant to SMC Section 9.25.035, (g) any animal found in the City of Seattle after removal pursuant to SMC 9.25.035A(3);

5. Detain animals found to be unlicensed, or abandoned, or at large, or in inhumane conditions, or to be a nuisance, or to be exotic or dangerous, or otherwise found to be in a circumstance violative of this chapter or any other provision of law;

6. Collect cats, dogs and other animals found dead on the public areas of the City, or from private property on request of the occupant of the property, and to bury, cremate, or arrange for the disposal of such animal;

7. Appoint agents for the collection of pig, miniature goat, dog and cat license fees and other fees established by Chapter 9.26 of the Seattle Municipal Code, including past-due fees and penalties;

8. Grant, renew, suspend, revoke, or deny licenses according to the terms of this chapter;

9. Administer the City Animal Shelter;

10. Administer the City Spay and Neuter Clinic and Program;

11. Charge and collect fees for the services authorized by this chapter, as established by Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 9.26, known

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as the "Animal Fee Ordinance," as now existing or hereafter amended, revised or re-enacted;

12. Reduce fees for the adoption or redemption of any animal, when, in the discretion of the Director, such a reduction is in the best interests of the animal;

13. Appoint persons experienced in the humane trapping of animals to set and bait a trap or use other devices that do not physically harm an animal trapped, when, in the judgment of the Director, such action will protect the public peace, health, safety and welfare and issue live animal trapping permits as authorized by the Director by rule;

14. Implant a microchip for identification purposes into animals leaving the shelter through adoption, redemption or release to another jurisdiction pursuant to 9.25.035; or whose owners have been found to have committed a violation of 9.25.084G or have been convicted of a crime under 12A.06.060 of the Seattle Municipal Code;

15. Photograph for identification purposes animals released to another jurisdiction pursuant to 9.25.035 or whose owners have been found to have committed a violation of 9.25.084G or has been convicted of a crime under 12A.06.060 of the Seattle Municipal Code.

16. Direct disposition of exotic animals, including but not limited to transfer to a zoological garden, herpetarium or other jurisdiction so long as the requirements of 9.25.035E are met;

17. Refund fees for overpayment or services not provided;

18. Detain an animal that is the subject of any violation of law, or whose owner is accused of violating any law relating to that animal, and collect from the owner all costs of detainment, care, feeding, and disposition;

19. Direct disposition of dangerous animals to a secured animal shelter or otherwise as provided for in this chapter;

20. Appoint ad hoc advisory committees to advise the Mayor, City Council, and the Director on matters pertaining to animal control, animal welfare, and other functions related to Seattle Animal Control.

\* \* \*

Section 4. Subsections A and C of Section 9.25.050 of the Seattle Municipal Code as last amended by Ordinance 119998 are amended as follows:

9.25.050 Animal licenses and permits generally.

A. The following animal licenses shall be required: potbelly pig, miniature goat, cat, and dog licenses, guard dog licenses and exotic animal permits.

\* \* \*

C. Applications for licenses and permits shall be made on forms approved by the Director and shall be accompanied by the fee set by

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the Animal Fee Ordinance (Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 9.26) and, in the case of male miniature goat, cat or dog licenses, proof of alteration if the animal is altered. Licenses shall be issued in the name of the owner, and shall be numbered. Licenses shall be issued for a twelve (12) month period and may include a twelve (12) month renewal. A provisional cat or dog license shall be for a six (6)-month period. Guard or Attack Dog licenses shall be issued for a twelve (12) month period only upon the applicant's compliance with Section 9.25.054. Each permit or subsequent license renewal for the same animal shall commence from the expiration date of the last valid license or permit.

Section 5. Section 9.25.052 of the Seattle Municipal Code as last amended by Ordinance 119998 is amended as follows:

9.25.053 Potbelly pig and miniature goat licenses.

A. Potbelly pigs. No potbelly pig may be kept as a domestic pet in the city if it is greater than twenty-two (22) inches in height at the shoulder or more than one hundred fifty (150) pounds in weight. Within thirty (30) days of entry of any potbelly pig into The City of Seattle, the owner of the pig must obtain a valid license for each such animal. Along with the fee for such license or renewal, the owner must present the following: proof that the pig is spayed or neutered; certification by a licensed veterinarian that the pig has current vaccinations; certification within the prior thirty (30) days by a licensed veterinarian of the weight of the pig; certification within the prior thirty (30) days by a licensed veterinarian that no tusk appears outside of the mouth of the pig when the mouth is closed; and the address of the property and description of the physical location(s) on the property where the pig will be kept.

B. Miniature goats. Within thirty (30) days of entry of any miniature goat into the City of Seattle, the owner of the miniature goat must obtain a valid license for such animal with the exception of nursing offspring born to a licensed miniature goat. A valid license much be obtained for offspring of a licensed miniature goat upon being weaned. Along with the fee for the license or renewal, the owner must present proof that the miniature goat is dehorned, and if the miniature goat is male, that it is neutered.

Section 6. Subsection E of Section 9.25.080 of the Seattle Municipal Code as last amended by Ordinance 119998 is amended as follows:

9.25.080 Offenses relating to licensing

It is unlawful for the owner of any animal to:

\* \* \*

E. Remove a license identification from any pig, miniature goat, cat or dog without the owner's consent;

\* \* \*

Section 7. Section 9.25.084 of the Seattle Municipal Code as last amended by Ordinance 121178 is amended by adding a new subsection H, as follows:

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9.25.084 Offenses relating to control

It is unlawful for the owner to:

\* \* \*

H. Permit any miniature goat to leave the owner's premises, except for purposes of transport or when on property other than that of the miniature goat's owner with the permission of a lawful occupant of that property.

Section 8. Subsections E and G of Section 9.25.100 of the Seattle Municipal Code as last amended by Ordinance 121765 are amended as follows:

9.25.100 ~~Penalty clause~~ Penalties

\* \* \*

E. In addition, the court may order the revocation or denial of any guard or attack dog license and any pig, miniature goat, cat or dog license to any person convicted of a crime under this chapter for a period not to exceed one (1) year.

\* \* \*

G. Any person whose pig, miniature goat, cat or dog license is revoked, suspended, or denied shall surrender all said pigs, miniature goats, cats and dogs to the Director.

Section 9. Section 9.26.020 of the Seattle Municipal Code as last amended by Ordinance 121004 is amended as follows:

9.26.020 Cat or, dog or goat license fee - Renewal

A. Unless a license with an automatic second year renewal is purchased as authorized in subsection B of this section, the fee for each cat, ~~or~~ dog or miniature goat license and for each annual period of renewal shall be:

1. Cats

Altered....\$15

Unaltered....25

2. Dogs

Altered....\$20

Unaltered....40

3. Miniature goats.....\$20

B. The fee for each cat, ~~or~~ dog or miniature goat license for an annual license with a twelve (12) month renewal shall be:

1. Cats

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Altered....\$22

Unaltered....40

2. Dogs

Altered....\$30

Unaltered....62

3. Miniature goats....\$30

\* \* \*

D. Late fee for renewal of a cat, ~~or~~ dog or miniature goat license more than thirty (30) days after its expiration....\$15

E. Dog, ~~or~~ cat or miniature goat owned by a member of the diplomatic or consular corps of a country having a treaty with the United States granting immunity from local law, upon submission of proof of such status....No fee

F. Dog, ~~or~~ cat or miniature goat owned by a person possessing a valid "senior citizen's identification card" or "handicapped person's identification card" issued by The City of Seattle Human Services Department....Fifty (50) percent of the license fee otherwise payable

G. Lost cat, ~~or~~ dog or miniature goat license tag....\$5

Section 10. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty (30) days from and after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten (10) days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

Passed by the City Council the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council

Approved by me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

Filed by me this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

(Seal)

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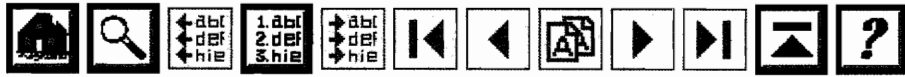
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Fiscal Note



**SUMMARY OF ORDINANCES FROM NEARBY TOWNS**

**Mebane, NC** defines livestock as follows: “horses, mules, sheep, pigs, ponies or other animals customarily kept and used for agricultural purposes, but not however, including fowl, dogs, cats, rabbits or other small mammals”. In Mebane, livestock are only permitted on lots containing “a minimum of one acre, with no more than two beasts on one acre and that such acre shall be at least 200 feet from a neighboring domicile”.

**Hillsborough, NC** defines small farm animals as “those that normally weigh less than 500 pounds at maturity. Small animals include, but are not limited to: goats, sheep, rabbits, etc.” Fowl means “feathered animals that normally weigh less than 50 pounds at maturity”. Small farm animals and fowl may be kept under the following circumstances: the lot on which the animals are kept complies with the minimum lot size for the zoning district within which it is located; animals are kept secured on site under sanitary conditions with adequate food, water, and shelter; and pens, roosts, hutches, etc., for the animals are located at least 50 feet from the nearest adjacent structure. Roosters are not permitted in town.

**Garner, NC** defines domestic animals as “any of various animals such as horses, sheep, cattle, goats, hogs, poultry, etc.; domesticated by man so as to live and breed in a tame condition”. Article 1, Section 3-5 (a) stipulates that, “Livestock and domestic fowl of all descriptions are hereby prohibited in any area of the town except those areas zoned for agricultural purposes by the zoning ordinance. Furthermore, it shall be unlawful, regardless of zoning, for any person to maintain, keep, house or stable any horse, mule, pony, cow, sheep, goat, chicken or other domestic fowl or livestock in the town within three hundred (300) feet of any dwelling, school, church, business, commercial or professional establishment. Not more than a total of three (3) horses, mules, ponies, cows, sheep, goats or other such animals shall be maintained on one (1) lot and such lot must contain no less than one (1) acre for each such animal maintained. No more than a total of four (4) chickens or other domestic fowl shall be maintained on one (1) lot and such lot must contain no less than one (1) acre for each four (4) or fewer chickens of other domestic fowl maintained. It is unlawful to allow fowl to run at large, and it is unlawful to keep or maintain “any rooster that through loud and habitual crowing or in any other manner constitutes a neighborhood or public nuisance”.

**Apex, NC** prohibits the keeping of livestock or male chickens within the corporate limits of the town. Livestock includes, but is not limited to, cows, goats, sheep, swine and other similar animals. Horses, ponies, rabbits, and fowl (except roosters) are exempt.

**Cary, NC** prohibits the keeping of livestock and domestic fowl of all descriptions in any area of the town except those areas zoned for agricultural purposes by the zoning ordinances. Swine are prohibited within the corporate limits of the town.

## ATTACHMENT H

### Tennessee Fainting Goat

A fainting goat is a breed of domestic goat whose muscles freeze for roughly ten seconds when the goat is startled. When this occurs, the goat usually collapses on its side. The fall is thought to be painless. This breed is generally smaller and somewhat easier to care for and maintain than are the larger goat breeds, which makes the fainting goat desirable for smaller farms. The fainting goat is "specialized" for smaller production operations as they are unable to challenge fences as vigorously as larger goat breeds. Fainting goats are slightly smaller than standard breeds of goat and are generally 17 to 25 inches tall and weigh between 50 and 175 pounds. In general, goats have a high reproductive rate and conception is not a problem. In most instances, female goats can reproduce every six months, producing either twins or triplets regularly, and have plenty of milk to raise them.

Ms. Prince's female goat will have to be pregnant to produce milk. She said that she would sell the kids to the breeder from whom she bought the original goats. She uses the goat waste as compost for the yard and garden adjacent to the house. The waste looks like rabbit pellets and has no particular odor. Housing for the goats consists of a wooden structure located in the back yard approximately 30 feet from the back deck of the house.