

CITY CODE

**Chickens, Rabbits & Domestic Animals*

915.37. Domestic animals. Subdivision 1. General rule. It is unlawful to keep or maintain roosters or bees, without first having obtained a permit therefor. Beekeeping is regulated under section 917. It is unlawful to keep or maintain more than two chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, pigeons, rabbits, chinchillas, minks, ferrets, nutrias, or guinea pigs without first having obtained a permit therefor. It is not permitted to keep or maintain large domesticated animals such as a horse, cow, pony, mule, donkey, pig, goat, or sheep. All of the aforementioned are hereinafter referred to as "animals." (Amended, Ord. Nos. 07-17; 08-06; 15-11)

Subd. 2. Permits. A person desiring a permit required by subdivision 1 may make application to the city council. The application must contain (i) the name and address of the applicant; (ii) the address of the premises upon which the animal or animals are to be kept; (iii) the number, species and sex of such animal or animals; and (iv) a statement regarding any property damage or physical injuries caused by such animal or animals in the past. The council may also require submission of such additional information or material as it deems necessary or convenient. The applicant must pay to the city clerk such initial permit fee and renewal permit fee as shall be established from time to time by council resolution. Upon submission of the initial application, the city clerk must set a date for a hearing on the application before the city council and must notify the owners of all properties located within 200 feet of the subject premises of the date and time of the hearing. (Amended, Ord. No. 15-11)

Subd. 3. Hearing. At the hearing the city council may take such testimony or receive such documents or information as it deems appropriate. A permit will not be issued if the city council finds that such animal or animals, because of their number, size, proximity to other properties, history of vicious or destructive actions, or inherent characteristics, are or are likely to become either a nuisance or a hazard to the public health or safety. (Amended, Ord. No. 15-11)

Subd. 4. Term. Permits are valid until December 31 of the year of issuance and may be renewed annually by the council. The council may revoke a permit prior to its expiration if the council finds that the terms or conditions of the permit have been violated or if the animal or animals have become either a public nuisance or a hazard to the public health or safety. Nothing herein in this subsection is to be construed to prohibit or constrain any action allowed by law designed to prevent the spread of disease or the imminent damage to persons or property caused by such animal or animals.

Subd. 5. Sales. Nothing contained in this subsection is to be construed as permitting anyone to keep or maintain animals for sale or as a part of a business, unless otherwise licensed or permitted.

Subd. 6. Exception. This subsection does not apply to pet stores or veterinary clinics. (Amended, Ord. No. 03-13)