

ORDINANCE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE to amend Section 6-16 regarding license requirement, use conditions, and public health and safety concerns for keeping of chickens to follow approved “La Crosse Food Growing Guide”.

SECTION I: Sec. 6-16(1) is hereby repealed.

SECTION II: Sec. 6-16(2) is hereby renumbered Sec. 6-16(1) and amended as follows:

- (2) *Use conditions.* Any owner, occupier, or user of property within the City of La Crosse who chooses to own, keep or harbor chickens and any chicken coop permitted under this section shall be limited to the following conditions:
- One property is limited to the keeping or harboring of up to five ~~chickens~~ hens. Property over five (5) acres may keep up to twenty (20) chickens.
  - A person may only own, keep or harbor chickens on property being used as a single-family residential dwelling.
  - No person shall keep any rooster on land less than five (5) acres in area.
  - ~~No person shall slaughter any chickens.~~
  - The chickens shall be provided with a covered enclosure and must be kept in the covered enclosure or a fenced enclosure within the backyard of the property at all times.
  - No enclosure shall be located closer than 25 feet to any residential structure on an adjacent lot.

SECTION III: Sec. 6-16(3) is hereby renumbered 6-16(2) and amended as follows:

- (3) *Public health and safety concerns.*
- No person shall keep any chicken or other fowl within the City of La Crosse in any unsanitary condition or within such proximity of dwelling houses or in any manner so as to be a nuisance.
  - All chicken coops, yards and other buildings shall be kept in a clean, sanitary condition and free from all objectionable odors and shall be subject to the inspection and approval of the City of La Crosse ~~and the La Crosse County Public Health Department~~ or their agents (i.e. the Coulee Region Human Society).
  - ~~The La Crosse County Public Health Department,~~ City of La Crosse and their agents shall have jurisdiction to inspect the premises upon which chickens are kept and ascertain and determine whether the conditions are unsanitary or if for any reason a nuisance is caused thereby.
  - A complaint against any person owning, keeping or harboring chickens in accordance with this section may be filed with the ~~City or the La Crosse County Department of Public Health~~ Coulee Region Human Society Animal Control (Animal Control). ~~If filed with the City, the City shall then be required to forward the complaint to the La Crosse County Department of Public Health. If the La Crosse County Public Health Department, the City of La Crosse or their agents~~ Animal Control determines that conditions are unsanitary, or if for any reason a nuisance exists, they shall have authority to order the owner or occupant of the premises to abate the nuisance. If the problem is not satisfactorily abated or alleviated, and it shall thereupon be unlawful to keep such chickens on the premises.
  - If an investigation from ~~the City~~ Animal Control reveals that the use of chickens is in violation of this section or any other section of this Code, ~~the City~~ it shall have authority to require the owner or user of the property to fix,

abate, or alleviate the problem. If the problem is not satisfactorily abated or alleviated, ~~the City of La Crosse shall have authority to revoke the license it~~ shall thereupon be unlawful to keep such chickens on the premises.

SECTION IV: This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

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Tim Kabat, Mayor

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Teri Lehrke, City Clerk

Passed:

Approved:

Published: