

## Amendment to Code of Ordinances of the City of Chatsworth Section 3-8

Purpose: to amend section 3-8 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Chatsworth, Georgia, Captioned "Animals and poultry prohibited", by removing said section 3-8as written and substituting a new section 3-8.

WHEREAS, there exists a need to protect the safety and general welfare of the people of the City of Chatsworth, Georgia, from uncontrolled animals, as well as to protect their animals from exposure to illness and injury, and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the City of Chatsworth, Georgia, have expressed interest in producing their own eggs and/or a hobby of raising and caring for chickens, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council for the City of Chatsworth do not believe that swine should be kept or maintained within corporate limits of said city.

NOW THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council for the City of Chatsworth and by the authority of same, ordain as follows: Section 3-8 as written shall be removed and shall be substituted as follows:

### **Section 3-8 Swine and Poultry**

A. It shall be unlawful for any person to keep swine within the corporate limits of the City of Chatsworth.

#### **B. Chickens/Poultry**

- 1) Residents shall be allowed to have no more than 10 chickens per single family residence for the production of their own eggs or for the enjoyment as a small hobby. No resident shall be allowed to house or keep roosters.
- 2) Owners shall feed and care for the animals on a daily basis.
- 3) The raising of chickens is for the personal use of the eggs from said chickens, and the sale of said eggs is prohibited. The keeping of hens is for personal use and not for transacting business. Further, the butchering of personal chickens within the city limits will not be allowed.
- 4) Every person who owns, keeps, controls, or maintains chickens must keep them confined at all times in a chicken coop or chicken run and must not allow chickens to run at large.
- 5) Chickens shall not be allowed to reside within a residence, on a porch, or in a storage building or garage. A chicken house or coop at the residence must be maintained with a minimum of two square feet per bird. A laying box must be a minimum of two square feet and shall be provided per three chickens. Said

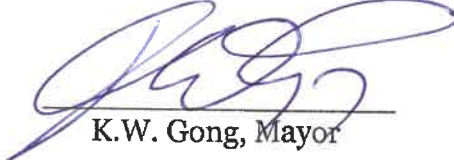
laying box shall be maintained with clean bedding such as hay or other soft materials.

- 6) Chicken coops are allowed to be attached to the rear of a garage or storage building.
  - 7) Animal or chicken habitat shall be maintained such that they do not create a nuisance and shall be maintained in such a way as to reduce unnecessary odors and not as an attractant to rodents or an infestation of maggots.
  - 8) Owners must take steps to avoid the buildup of flies and maggots by removing litter and keeping chicken feed dry, and further, by properly disposing of dead birds or waste eggs.
  - 9) The poultry facility shall be at least 10 feet from any property line and at least 20 feet from any neighboring residence. An outside, enclosed chicken run may be allowed but shall be no larger than 8 feet by 8 feet and must attached to the coop.
  - 10) All chickens must be secured in the chicken coop from sunset to sunrise each day.
  - 11) The facilities should be built to keep dogs, cats, and other wildlife from gaining entrance. Owner shall store all feed supplies in animal-proof containers.
  - 12) The owner shall dispose of all waste material (feed, manure, and litter) in an environmentally responsible manner. The waste materials shall be composted or bagged and disposed of within a reasonable time. Piling waste materials on the owner's property is prohibited.
  - 13) Both the process of weeding the inferior animals known as culling and mortality are common occurrences when raising live animals. Poultry owners will need to dispose of unwanted males, old hens, dead or sick birds properly. Owners must double bag and dispose of dead birds properly in accordance with rules and regulations for the Department of Health, Georgia Department of Agriculture, and Georgia law. Owners shall not bury a carcass, or otherwise dispose of a carcass into ditches, creeks, ponds, or otherwise near water.
- C. **Private Restrictions and Covenants on Real Property** Private restrictions include but are not limited to deed restrictions, condominium master deed restrictions, neighborhood association by laws, or covenant declarations. Owners whose property is located within a subdivision should check with the homeowner's association and/or property covenants before maintaining chickens.

D. **Penalties** Any owner/occupant whose chicken or swine is found to be in violation of any sections in this article shall be cited by animal control department and/or other law enforcement offices, and the owner will be summoned to Municipal Court for violation of this ordinance and be subject to up to the maximum penalty allowed by the Chatsworth City Code.

SO ORDAINED, this 10TH day of JULY 2023,

The foregoing ordinance received a first reading on JUNE 5TH, 2023 and a second reading on JULY 10TH, 2023. Upon section reading, a Motion for Passage of the Amendment was made by Councilman Terry Crump, second by Councilman Jeff Cloer and upon the questions the vote is 4 ayes, 0 nays, and the Amended Ordinance is adopted.

  
K.W. Gong, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Linda Penland

