

1 **BOARD BILL NO. 296** **INTRODUCED BY ALDERMAN SCOTT**

2 **OGILVIE, ALDERWOMAN CHRISTINE INGRASSIA**

3 An ordinance revising and amending Title 10, Chapter 10.20 of the Revised Code of
4 the City of St. Louis and the underlying ordinances (including the repealing or revision of
5 portions of Ordinances 62941, 68463, 62853, 47883, and 42333), dealing with the raising
6 and keeping of certain animals, to increase the number of chickens that can be kept on a
7 parcel, to allow for the keeping of sheep, goats, and ratite birds (such as emus and ostriches);
8 and containing a Severability Clause.

9 **WHEREAS**, there has been a renewed interest in sustainable urban farming and
10 agriculture in the City of St. Louis, and it appears that the keeping of an increased number of
11 fowl and small farm animals enjoys the support of the citizenry; and

12 **WHEREAS**, all of this bill’s changes and revisions to the existing ordinances as
13 codified in the Revised Code of the City of St. Louis are shown in Exhibit A; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Aldermen hereby finds that passage of this ordinance is in
15 the best interest of the City of St. Louis.

16 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS AS FOLLOWS:**

17 **SECTION ONE. Repeal of Section Two of Ordinance 62941.**

18 Section Two of Ordinance 62941 and Section 10.20.010 of the Revised Code of the
19 City of St. Louis are hereby repealed.

20 **SECTION TWO. Definitions.**

1 A new Section Two of Ordinance 62941, which shall replace the current Section
2 10.20.10 of the Revised Code of the City of St. Louis, is hereby enacted and shall read as
3 follows:

4 **Definitions.**

5 As used in this Chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the meaning
6 ascribed to them in this section:

- 7 A. “Adequate care” means normal and prudent attention to the needs of
8 an animal, including wholesome food, clean water, shelter and health
9 care as necessary to maintain good health in a specific species of
10 animal;
- 11 B. “Adequate control” means reasonable restraint or governance of an
12 animal so that it does not injure itself, any person, another animal, or
13 property;
- 14 C. “Domestic animal” means a dog or cat, including any puppy or kitten,
15 which is more than six weeks old.
- 16 D. “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of the Health Division of
17 the City of St. Louis Department of Health and Hospitals or his
18 delegate.
- 19 E. “Fowl” means chickens, hens, ducks, geese, pigeons, quail, pheasants,
20 and other fowl, domesticated or wild, excluding roosters.

- 1 F. “Kennel” means any premises on which more than four animals are
2 domiciled or otherwise kept, must obtain a graduated business license
3 except for those persons obtaining a noncommercial kennel permit.
- 4 G. Kept: animals—whether livestock, small farm animals, or domestic
5 animals—shall be considered to be “kept” on premises if an owner or
6 occupant of that premises, for a period of more than seven days,
7 provides food and/or shelter for the animal, even if such person does
8 not claim ownership of the animal.
- 9 H. “Livestock” means goats, sheep, and ratite birds.
- 10 I. “Noncommercial kennel permit” means a permit issued to an owner or
11 keeper of no more than eight (8) domestic animals that are owned or
12 kept for personal pets, and the domestic animals or their offspring are
13 not sold or offered for sale or used for breeding.
- 14 J. “Owner” means any person who provides food or shelter to a farm or
15 domestic animal for more than seven consecutive days or who
16 professes to own, keep or harbor an animal.
- 17 K. “Pot-bellied pig” means a domestic Vietnamese pot-bellied pig.
- 18 L. “Property located within a residentially zoned district” means any
19 parcel of property which the official zoning District Map, as it may be
20 amended by the Board of Aldermen from time to time, shows as being
21 located within an A, B, C, D or E zone. If a portion of a parcel is

1 within one of the zones, the entire parcel shall be considered to be
2 located within a residentially zoned district for purposes of this part.

3 M. “Rabbits” shall refer to any rabbits, domesticated or wild.

4 N. “Research facility” means a laboratory operated by a college or
5 university in which research is conducted using animals.

6 O. “Reptile” means all turtles, lizards and nonpoisonous snakes except
7 boids over eight (8) feet in length.

8 P. “Small farm animals” means fowl and rabbits.

9 Q. “Veterinarian” means an individual licensed to practice veterinary
10 medicine by the State of Missouri.

11 R. “Veterinary hospital” means a premises at which one or more
12 veterinarians provide treatment for sick and injured animals.

13 **SECTION THREE. Repeal of Section One of Ordinance 68463.**

14 Section One of Ordinance 68463 and Section 10.20.015 of the Revised Code of the
15 City of St. Louis are hereby repealed.

16 **SECTION FOUR. Keeping of certain animals prohibited.**

17 A new Section Two of Ordinance 68463, which shall replace the current Section
18 10.20.15 of the Revised Code of the City of St. Louis, is hereby enacted and shall read as
19 follows:

20 **Keeping of certain animals prohibited.**

- 1 A. No person shall raise or keep within the City of St. Louis any roosters,
2 cattle, or swine, except for Vietnamese pot-bellied pigs, as provided
3 for in subsection B. below. Nor shall any person raise or keep within
4 the City of St. Louis any canine which is the offspring of the mating of
5 a domestic canine with a wolf or coyote. The raising of such animals is
6 hereby declared to be a public nuisance. Notwithstanding the
7 foregoing, the above specified animals may be raised or kept within
8 biological laboratories, hospitals, slaughter houses, stockyards,
9 zoological gardens, or an itinerant or temporary show.
- 10 B. One Vietnamese pot-bellied pig, per parcel of property, may be kept in
11 the City of St. Louis, provided that males over the age of four (4)
12 weeks (28 days) are neutered and females over the age of one hundred
13 twenty (120) days are spayed. All such animals must be proven
14 purebred lineage, and the owner must be able to produce litter papers
15 to verify pedigree. Pigs over the age of one hundred twenty (120) days
16 must be registered and licensed as required of dogs and cats. Fees for
17 such licenses will be the same as required for dogs and cats, and must
18 be obtained from the Health Commissioner, who must receive
19 certificate of immunization from a licensed veterinarian that such
20 Vietnamese pot-bellied pig has been vaccinated against pseudorabies
21 prior to issuing such license.

1 C. No person shall raise or keep more than eight (8) fowl within the City,
2 except that on lots greater than 20,000 square feet one additional fowl
3 is permitted per 1,000 square feet in excess of 20,000 square feet, to a
4 maximum of 20 fowl; no person shall keep more than eight (8) rabbits
5 within the City, except that on lots greater than 20,000 square feet one
6 additional rabbit is permitted per 1,000 square feet in excess of 20,000
7 square feet, to a maximum of 20 rabbits; except that such small farm
8 animals may be raised or kept within biological laboratories, hospitals,
9 pet shops, slaughter houses, stockyards, zoological gardens, or
10 itinerant or temporary shows.

11 D. No owner/guardian of any animal shall permit such animal to be found
12 at large on the streets of the City or in any public place or on another
13 person's property.

14 **SECTION FIVE. Repeal of Section Eight of Ordinance 62853.**

15 Section Eight of Ordinance 62853 and Section 10.20.016 of the Revised Code of the
16 City of St. Louis are hereby repealed.

17 **SECTION SIX. Regulation of animal housing.**

18 A new Section Eight of Ordinance 62853, which shall replace the current Section
19 10.20.15 of the Revised Code of the City of St. Louis, is hereby enacted and shall read as
20 follows:

21 **Regulation of animal housing.**

1 The Health Commissioner shall have authority to establish minimum standards and
2 regulations governing the manner of keeping, raising and sheltering of any animal not
3 prohibited by law on any premise or lot, or in any structure or building within the
4 City, as the health Commissioner deems necessary to prevent nuisances or insanitary
5 conditions. The following standards are mandated by law:

- 6 A. No coops or cages housing rabbits or fowl may be located in front or
7 side yards.
- 8 B. All small farm animals shall be provided with a covered, predator-
9 proof coop or cage or other shelter that is thoroughly ventilated,
10 designed to be easily accessed and cleaned, and of sufficient size as
11 determined by the Health Commissioner to permit free movement of
12 the animals. A minimum of 2 square feet per animal of space inside
13 such a structure is required.
- 14 C. A maximum of 50 square feet of space inside coops and cages shall be
15 permitted.
- 16 D. The person maintaining any coop or cage, by such act of maintenance,
17 authorizes the Commissioner of the Health Division to at any time
18 inspect a structure or premises and issue any order as may be
19 necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.
- 20 E. Small farm animals shall have access to an outdoor enclosure, which
21 may or may not be the lot in its entirety. The outdoor enclosure shall

1 be adequately fenced to contain the small animals within the enclosure
2 and to prevent access by dogs and other predators. The outdoor
3 enclosure shall provide at least 10 square feet of area for each animal.

4 **SECTION SEVEN. Correcting a misspelling in Rev. Code Section 10.20.017.**

5 Section 10.20.017 of the Revised Code of the City is hereby revised thus: in
6 subsection B.6., strike out the word: “wilfully”, and insert in lieu thereof, to read as follows:
7 “willfully”.

8 **SECTION EIGHT. Keeping of livestock.**

9 The following, which is to be codified in a new Section 10.20.018 of the Revised
10 Code of the City of St. Louis, is hereby enacted and shall read as follows:

11 **Keeping of livestock.**

12 A. The keeping of livestock may be permitted on lots of at least 20,000
13 square feet.

14 B. A maximum of four livestock animals and their offspring under six
15 months of age may be kept on lots meeting the minimum size
16 requirements. One additional goat, sheep, or ratite bird is permitted for
17 every additional 2,500 square feet of lot area to maximum of 10
18 animals and their offspring under six months of age.

19 C. Goats, sheep, and ratite birds shall be kept, maintained, pastured, or
20 fed at least 10 feet from any property line and at least 100 feet from

1 any portion of a building used by someone other than the keeper of the
2 animals.

3 D. No structures used to house or keep livestock, such as stables and
4 enclosures, are permitted in front yards or in side yards and shall be set
5 back in accordance with the standards specified above.

6 E. Male goats must be neutered.

7 F. No owner/guardian of any animal shall permit such animal to be found
8 at large on the streets of the City or in any public place or on another
9 person's property.

10 **SECTION NINE. Revision of Section Four of Ordinance 47883.**

11 Section Four of Ordinance 47883 and Section 10.20.160 of the Revised Code of the
12 City of St. Louis are hereby revised thus:

- 13 • After the words “not less than five dollars”, insert the following words and
14 figures: “(\$5)”.
- 15 • Strike out the words “fifty dollars”, and insert in lieu thereof, to read in words
16 and figures as follows: “five hundred dollars (\$500)”.

17 **SECTION TEN. Repeal of Section One of Ordinance 47883 defining “fowl.”**

18 Section One of Ordinance 47883 and Section 10.20.130 of the Revised Code of the
19 City of St. Louis are hereby repealed.

20 **SECTION ELEVEN. Repeal of Ordinance 42333 requiring appointment of a**
21 **City veterinary surgeon.**

1 Ordinance 42333 and Section 10.20.170 of the Revised Code of the City of St. Louis
2 are hereby repealed.

3 **SECTION TWELVE. SEVERABILITY.**

4 It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Board of Aldermen that each and every
5 part, section and subsection of this Ordinance shall be separate and severable from each and
6 every other part, section and subsection hereof and that the Board of Aldermen intends to
7 adopt each said part, section and subsection separately and independently of any other part,
8 section and subsection. In the event that any part, section or subsection of this Ordinance
9 shall be determined to be or to have been unlawful or unconstitutional, the remaining parts,
10 sections and subsections shall be and remain in full force and effect, unless the court making
11 such finding shall determine that the valid portions standing alone are incomplete and are
12 incapable of being executed in accord with the legislative intent.