

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 14,
“ANIMALS” OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES**

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the best interests of the City to allow beekeeping in single family residential areas; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has further determined that beekeeping activity should be regulated to protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Rolling Meadows, Illinois, as follows:

SECTION ONE: Chapter 14, “Animals” Section 14-2(b) is hereby repealed and replaced with the following:

(b) Within the City, no person shall own or keep any goats, sheep, hogs, cattle, fowl, reptile or serpent, spider, or other animal normally wild, dangerous to human life or carnivorous in nature, other than domesticated house pets. Each day such animal is kept in violation of this section shall constitute a separate and distinct offense. It is no defense to a violation of this section that the owner or keeper of any animal or reptile that is prohibited in this section has attempted to domesticate such animal or reptile.

SECTION TWO: Chapter 14, “Animals” is hereby amended by adding thereto the following:

ARTICLE VI. BEEKEEPING.

Section 14-130. Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them:

- A. “Abate” means to exterminate, destroy, eliminate, seize, impound or mitigate.
- B. “Africanized Honey Bees” means a population of hybrid bees resulting from a cross between *Apis mellifera* and *Apis mellifera scutellata*.
- C. “Apiary” includes bees, comb, hive, appliances, or colonies, wherever they are kept, located or found.

- D. "Appliance" means any implement or other device which is used in handling and manipulating bees or comb, any container of bees or comb, or any other equipment which is used in the practice of apiculture.
- E. "Beehive" means a Langstroth type beehive
- F. "Bees" means honey-producing insects of the genus *Apis* and includes all life stages of these insects.
- G. "Colony" means one hive and its contents, including bees, comb and appliances.
- H. "Comb" includes all materials which are normally deposited into hives by bees but excludes extracted honey or royal jelly, trapped pollen, and processed beeswax.
- I. "Hive" means any receptacle or container, or part of any receptacle or container, which is made or prepared for the use of bees, or which is inhabited by bees.
- J. "Honeybee" means the common domestic Honeybee, limited to the *Apis mellifera* species, specifically excluding the African Honeybee, *Apis mellifera ssp scutellata* or Africanized Honeybees.
- K. "Langstroth Type Beehive" means a Beehive consisting of an outer frame with a solid top cover, an inner cover, a bottom board, and a number of boxes and supers containing tightly spaced movable frames.
- L. "Overly Aggressive Behavior" means a colony of honeybees that exhibits a level of aggression in response to stimuli that makes the colony a nuisance and a public health hazard.
- M. "Swarm" means a cluster or flying mass of honeybees.

Section 14-131. Beekeeping Permit Required.

Persons seeking to have and maintain an Apiary in the City of Rolling Meadows shall first register/obtain a Beekeeping Permit. Applicants may be Beekeepers on the residential property of another, as long as all requirements have been satisfied and permission has been granted from the property owner to keep an Apiary and verified in writing. Applications shall be submitted to the City Manager or designee. Beekeeping Registration/Permits are only available for single family detached residential property.

- (a) At the time of registration/application for a Beekeeping Permit, the applicant shall:
 - 1. Complete the inspection/permit form (as provided by the City);
 - 2. Pay a Ten Dollar (\$10.00) annual registration fee.

3. Provide written consent of the property owner, if the Apiary will be located on residential property not owned by the applicant. The property owner will be required to sign the application as well.
 4. Complete Beekeeping Questionnaire (as provided by the City).
- (b) State Registration. Beekeeper must, within 30 days of installation of a Colony into a Beehive, register their Beehive(s) with the Illinois Department of Agriculture or as otherwise required by the State of Illinois. State Registration must be maintained for the life of the Beehive. The Beekeeper shall provide proof of such state registration to the City Manager's Office.
 - (c) Expiration and Renewal. Beekeeping Permits shall be valid for up to one year. All Beekeeping Permits expire on March 31st of each calendar year. Beekeepers must submit their renewal application at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the expiration date. A renewal permit, including a new beekeeping questionnaire, shall be subject to the requirements in subsection 14-131(a) 1-3 and (b).

Section 14-132. Apiary Inspection.

Beekeepers must have their Beehives inspected by the State of Illinois Apiary Inspector at least every other year and provide a copy to the City Manager's Office.

Section 14-133. Beehive Type.

All beehive types are allowed and shall be kept in sound and usable condition.

Section 14-134. Apiary Maintenance.

Beekeepers shall keep all Beekeeping equipment in good condition and secure unused equipment from weather, potential theft, vandalism or occupancy by migratory Colonies. If no longer in use, the beekeeping equipment is to be disassembled and stored appropriately.

- (a) *Components.* Beekeepers shall ensure that no bee comb, wax or other materials are left upon the grounds of the Beehive or Apiary site. Beekeepers shall promptly store or dispose of any bee comb, wax or other materials which have been removed from the Beehive in a sealed container or within a building or other bee proof enclosure.
- (b) *Water.* Beekeepers shall ensure that a convenient source of water is available. If the beekeeper is providing a source, it must be maintained in a secure receptacle so as not to create a breeding site for mosquitoes.
- (c) *Colony Maintenance.* Beekeepers shall monitor and maintain their Colony or Colonies so as not to become a nuisance. Colonies must be monitored at least twice a month from March 1st to November 30th.

Section 14-135. Aggressive Behavior.

In any instance in which a Colony exhibits Overly Aggressive Behavior by stinging or attempting to sting without due provocation, or exhibits an unusual disposition towards Swarming, it shall be the duty of the Beekeeper to immediately contact the State Apiary Inspector.

Section 14-136. Beehive Location.

Apiaries may only be located and maintained in residential districts with detached residences.

- (a) Apiaries shall be located only in a rear yard at least sixty (60) feet from a front lot line.
- (b) Apiaries shall be located at least ten (10) feet from a side property line.
- (c) Apiaries shall be located at least ten (10) feet from a rear lot.
- (d) Apiaries and Beehives shall be permitted on the ground, rooftops or balconies of single family homes only (no multi-family/townhomes/etc.).
- (e) Beekeepers shall not keep more than five (5) beekeeping structures including two (2) hives in their Apiary on any property.

Section 14-137. Flyways.

Each Beehive entrance must have a flyway barrier which directs the Honeybees upwards as they exit the Beehive. The distance between the Beehive entrance and flyway barrier shall be no more than ten (10) feet. The flyway barrier must be six (6) feet in height.

Section 14-138. Signage.

Beekeepers shall conspicuously post a weatherproof sign at least ten (10) inches by one (1) foot on the front of the property (or front window or on the porch) and shall state, "State Registered Beehive(s) on Property" or similar language that makes clear that bees are on the premises. The sign must be visible and easily read from outside the property and must include contact information for the appropriate state department with which the apiaries are registered.

Section 14-139. Nontransferability.

A Beekeeping Permit shall not be assigned or transferred to any other person, or to any other location.

Section 14-140. Suspension and Revocation of Beekeeping Permit.

- (a) The City Manager shall have the authority to suspend or revoke a Beekeeping Permit.

The powers of the City Manager to suspend or revoke a Beekeeping Permit and the procedure for suspension or revocation of a Beekeeping Permit shall be the same as those provided for at Chapter 22, Section 22-40 of the Code of Ordinances.

Section 14-141 Nuisance Bees; Duty to Exterminate.

Bees, including Africanized Honey Bees shall be considered a public nuisance when they interfere with the normal use of private or public property swarm or have shown unusual aggressive behavior toward a person or animal.

Every owner or person in charge of, or in possession of, any property on which nuisance bees are present shall proceed in good faith to endeavor to exterminate said bees.

Section 14-142 Injunction.

Any violation of this chapter is hereby declared to be unlawful and a public nuisance. Upon request of the City Manager, an action by the City Attorney for injunctive relief may be commenced for the abatement, removal and enjoyment thereof in the manner provided by law. Application shall be made to such court or courts which have jurisdiction to grant such relief, to abate or remove such use and restrain and enjoin any person from using property contrary to the provisions of this chapter.

SECTION THREE: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its date of passage and approval as required by law.

SECTION FOUR: This Ordinance shall be printed and published in pamphlet form by order of the City Council of the City of Rolling Meadows, Illinois.

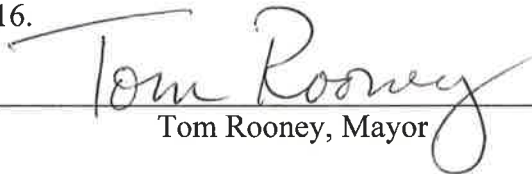
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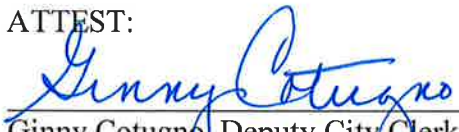
ABSENT: Veenbaas

Passed this 12th day of July 2016.

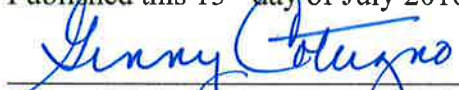
Approved this 12th day of July 2016.


Tom Rooney, Mayor

ATTEST:


Ginny Cotugno, Deputy City Clerk

Published this 13th day of July 2016.


Ginny Cotugno, Deputy City Clerk