

Ordinance 11-2020  
Passed February 11, 2020

AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL ORDINANCE 11-2016 AND ADOPT SECTION 90.38 OF THE PLYMOUTH CODE OF ORDINANCES, KEEPING OF ANIMALS.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF PLYMOUTH, COUNTY OF RICHLAND/HURON, STATE OF OHIO:

1. That Section 90.38 of the Plymouth Code of Ordinances, Keeping of Animals, is added and the Purpose shall be that these standards are to allow for increased opportunities for residential urban animal keeping and farming within the Village limits, while encouraging compatibility within the urban environment. Animal keeping is the practice of raising domesticated animals that are used for companionship or as food or product sources. Section 90.38 shall read as follows:

**90.38 KEEPING OF ANIMALS.**

(a) As used in this section the following definitions shall apply:

- (1) Exotic animals: includes lions, tigers, leopards, panthers, cougars, bobcats, bears, wolves, foxes, apes, gorillas, alligators, crocodiles, poisonous or constrictor snakes and any other member of the animal kingdom not defined as a domestic animal or farm animal in this section which is not native to the Village and presents a risk of harm to human beings.
- (2) Farm animals: includes horses, ponies, mules, donkeys, cows, pigs, sheep, goats, non-domesticated rabbits, buffalo, lamas, alpacas, poultry, including roosters, and any other animals which are raised for the purpose of providing food, entertainment, clothing or to be used as a beast of burden and not classified as a domestic or exotic animal in this section.
- (3) Domestic animals: includes dogs, cats and domesticated rabbits being kept solely as pets or 4H Projects.
- (4) At large: any animal that is not completely confined by a building wall or fence of sufficient strength or construction to restrain the animal and prevent the animal from leaving there at any time, or except when such animal is either on a leash or held in the hands of the owner or keeper, or under direct supervision of the owner or qualified person within the limits of the owner's private property. An animal within an automobile or other vehicle of its owner shall not be deemed as "running at large."
- (5) Harbor: the act of keeping and caring for an animal or of providing premises to which the animal returns for food, shelter, or care for a period of at least ten (10) days.
- (6) Owner/Ownership: a person who owns or has custody or control of or having title to any animal; or a person who harbors or keeps, or causes or permits to be harbored or kept, any animal in their care.
- (7) Public nuisance: any animal which molests passerby or passing vehicles; attacks other animals; roams at large; damages public or private property; barks, whines, meows, howls, squawks or crows in a frequent or continuous manner that disturbs any person of ordinary sensibilities in the vicinity.

- (b) No person shall keep, possess, own, control, maintain, use or otherwise exercise dominion over any animal or animals which, by reason of noise, odor or sanitary conditions including lack of reasonable shelters, becomes offensive to a reasonable and prudent person of ordinary tastes and sensibilities, or which constitutes or becomes a health hazard as determined by the Village Council and/or Health Department.
- (c) No person shall be negligent in minimal animal care, which includes sanitary living conditions, including appropriate shelter, bedding, regular feeding schedule, and access to clean water. General animal welfare needs must be met.
- (d) No person shall fail to promptly remove and properly dispose of all waste produced by any farm or domestic animals and shall maintain such animal and the pen structure or yard it frequents free from offensive odors.
- (e) No commercial breeding or kennel business shall be operated within any district in this Village zoned R-1 Residential OR R-2 Residential.
- (f) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. In the event a same and subsequent violation occurs within six (6) months of a plea or finding of a violation, the person shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

- 2. That Ordinance 11-2016 is repealed.
- 3. That this Ordinance shall take effect at the earliest time allowed by law.

PASSED: February 11, 2020

Cassandra Fyman  
Mayor

ATTEST: D. Amy Jamerson  
Village Fiscal Officer

February 11, 2020  
Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Jon K. Burton  
Jon K. Burton, Solicitor