
**THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**ORDINANCE
NUMBER 2020-031**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND,
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, AMENDING CHAPTER 90
OF THE CODE OF BLUE ISLAND, ILLINOIS REGARDING THE
KEEPING OF POULTRY**

**DOMINGO F. VARGAS, Mayor
Randy Heuser, City Clerk**

**DEXTER JOHNSON
FRED BILOTTO
NANCY RITA
TOM HAWLEY
MICHAEL MECH
CANDACE CARR
JAMES KLINKER**

**ANNETTE ALEXANDER
WILLIAM CAZARES
KEVIN DONAHUE
BILL FAHRENWALD
JOHNNY RINGO HILL
RAEANN CANTELO-ZYLMAN
ALLAN STEVO**

Aldermen

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2020-031

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS,
AMENDING CHAPTER 90 OF THE CODE OF BLUE ISLAND, ILLINOIS
REGARDING THE KEEPING OF POULTRY**

WHEREAS, the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois (the “*City*”) is a duly organized and existing city created under the provisions of the laws of the State of Illinois and is now operating under the provisions of the Illinois Municipal Code, and all laws amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto, with full powers to enact ordinances and adopt resolutions for the benefits of the residents of the City; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the City Council (the “*Corporate Authorities*”) are committed to ensuring the effective administration of government; and

WHEREAS, the Corporate Authorities may from time to time amend the text of the Code of Blue Island, Illinois when it is determined to be in the best interests of the City and the residents of the City; and

WHEREAS, Section 24 of the Animal Control Act (510 ILCS 5/24) authorizes municipalities to control and regulate animals within its corporate limits; and

WHEREAS, the Corporate Authorities find that amending the Code of the City of Blue Island, Illinois to regulate the keeping of poultry within the City to be in the best interest of the City and its residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois as follows:

Section 1. That the above recitals and legislative findings are found to be true and correct and are hereby incorporated herein and made a part hereof, as if fully set forth in their entirety.

Section 2. The Corporate Authorities find and determine that the adoption of this Ordinance is in the best interests of the City as well as in the public interest.

Section 3. Section 90.01 (“*Definitions*”) of Chapter 90 (“*Animals*”) of Title IX (“*General Regulations*”) of the Code of Blue Island, Illinois is hereby amended by inserting the following definitions to be incorporated in alphabetical order to read as follows:

§ 90.01 DEFINITIONS.

POULTRY. Domesticated fowl, commonly known as Chicken, of the species *Gallus gallus domesticus*. Ducks, Geese, Pea Fowl, Quail, Peacocks, Pigeons, Turkeys, and others are not considered domestic fowl for the purpose of this ordinance.

CHICKEN COOP. The structure for keeping or housing female poultry that is permitted by the ordinance.

CHICKEN RUN. An enclosed area for feeding and grazing adjacent to the Chicken Coop, as permitted by the ordinance.

CHICKEN TRACTOR or ARK. A movable Chicken Coop lacking a floor which allows poultry to scratch the ground for food. It may be moved around a yard to preclude permanent damage to grass and landscaped areas.

HEN. A female chicken.

ROOSTER. A male chicken

Section 4. Accordingly, Subsection Keeping of Poultry beginning with Section 90.120 is hereby created under Chapter 90 (“*Animals*”) of Title IX (“*General Regulations*”) of the Code of Blue Island, Illinois to read as follows:

KEEPING OF POULTRY

§ 90.120 LICENSE REQUIRED.

No person shall own, keep, maintain, or harbor poultry within the City without obtaining an annual license therefor.

§ 90.121 APPLICATION.

(A) Application for a poultry license shall be made upon such printed forms as provided by the City and shall include the following information:

- (1) The address of the residence to be licensed.
- (2) The name, telephone number, email of the property owner.
- (3) A site plan indicating the location of the proposed chicken coop and chicken run. The site plan should be drawn to scale and indicate the lot size, location of the principal residence and accessory structures on the lot where the poultry will be located as well as the location of the principal residential structure on adjacent property to the side and rear yards.
- (4) A description of the screening to be provided on the rear and side yards. If a chicken tractor is to be used; the area it will be moved within the property shall be delineated on the site plan. The screening method for this area will be identified on the site plan.

(B) If the license application is for a new chicken coop, a City building permit and final inspection will be required. If the application is for an annual renewal license, the applicant will indicate if any changes have been made from the original building permit and Site Plan approval.

§ 90.122 LICENSE FEE.

(A) The annual Poultry License fee shall be \$50 per year.

(B) Whenever the ownership of a residence shall change, a new owner desiring to maintain the chicken coop shall notify the City and pay to the City the sum of \$10, whereupon the City shall change the records accordingly for the coop.

(C) The licensing period shall begin with the fiscal year and shall run for one year. If licenses are obtained within the fiscal year, it will expire on the next April 30, with the renewal cycle beginning May 1 of each year.

(D) Persons who fail to obtain a license as required will be subject to a \$150 fee.

(E) Licensed premises shall be inspected annually by a City Health Inspector and Compliance Officer to confirm compliance with the provisions of this chapter. This shall include:

- (1) The size, structural condition, and sanitation of the chicken coop;
- (2) The proper location and setback of the chicken coop and enclosed chicken run;
- (3) Proper storage of poultry feed; and
- (4) Screening of the chicken coop and chicken run.

§ 90.123 REGULATIONS AND PROHIBITIONS

(A) It shall be unlawful to house or keep any live poultry within 20 feet of any school or church or public street without a Poultry License. Further, any live poultry shall be housed equidistant from each property line or at least 20 feet from any residence other than the residence of the owner of such animals. Consideration will be given for up to a 15' reduction of the required setbacks by Administrative Review, dependent on screening of the rear yard, setback and configuration of the licensed and adjacent residential property, and the design of the chicken coop.

Poultry Licenses are required for the keeping of live poultry and will be issued only under the following conditions:

- (1) Property shall be zoned R1 Single Family Residential with a minimum lot size of 4,800 square feet.
- (2) A building permit is required for the construction of a chicken coop, outdoor enclosed chicken run, chicken tractor or the installation of a prefabricated chicken coop. If electricity is installed to the chicken coop it must be installed underground; extension cords or above ground wire are not permitted. Any electrical work requires an electrical permit. The Building Department shall inspect any structure related to the keeping of poultry to determine compliance with City code. Upon staff review existing non-residential structures may be allowed for the housing of hens.
- (3) Should allow no more than ten (10) hens. No roosters are allowed.
- (4) Chicken coop and enclosed chicken run requirements:
 - (a) All keeping of poultry must be kept in a chicken coop; poultry are not allowed to be housed within a residence.
 - (b) Each licensed premise shall contain a single chicken coop with dimensions no larger than 24 square feet in area and six feet in height as measured from grade, elevated at least 1' off of the ground.

(c) Chicken coops shall be constructed of solid materials on all sides, including roof and door(s); the chicken coop must be constructed in such a manner so as to protect the hens from predators and trespassers, provide adequate ventilation to minimize odors, allow easy ingress and egress for hens and protection from weather elements including cold temperatures.

(d) Hens may be allowed outside of the chicken coop between dawn and dusk only in an enclosed, covered chicken run no larger than 32 square feet and no taller than six feet. Each hen shall have a minimum space of two square feet within the enclosed run. The screening enclosing this area must be buried at 12" deep and 6" flat to prevent predators from digging under the fence. Chicken wire shall not be used for screening. If hardware cloth, or welded wire mesh is used, it must be a minimum of 19-gauge wire.

(e) Both chicken coops and enclosed outdoor chicken runs shall be located:

1. Only in a rear yard.
2. A minimum of ten feet from any lot line.
3. Equidistant from each property line or at least 20 feet from residential structures not occupied by licensee.
4. At least ten feet from the principal building.

(f) To accommodate free range hens the outside enclosure may be provided through the use of a mobile screened enclosure commonly referred to as a chicken tractor. Placement of the chicken tractor must maintain the setbacks outlined within this chapter.

(g) The area of confinement shall be secured at all times and shall consist of an enclosed run which shall have sufficient fresh air, provide shade and an enclosed area (coop) which shall be freely accessible to the hens during the night and in inclement weather (heat, rain, wind, storm, snow, cold).

(h) All areas used for the feeding and grazing shall be maintained to prevent soil erosion and run off to neighboring properties.

(5) Screening of the premises.

(a) Licensed premises must contain a 6' solid fence to screen the area which contains the chicken coop and open chicken run from adjacent properties. Consideration will be given for a vegetative screen instead of a fence if the

setback distance between the chicken coop and residential structures not occupied by the licensee is greater than 100'.

(b) Use of a chicken tractor will require the entire area within which the tractor is moved to meet this screening requirement.

(6) Hens shall be kept in a sanitary condition at all times with fresh water. All premises on which hens are kept or maintained shall be kept clean from filth, garbage, and any substances which attract rodents.

(a) Food shall be provided on a regular basis throughout the day. Stored feed must be kept in a rodent- and predator-proof container.

(b) All chicken coops and enclosed chicken runs shall be maintained in good, structurally sound repair and in a neat, clean, presentable and attractive condition.

(c) No hen shall be kept in a manner so as to create noxious odors or noise of a loud, persistent and habitual nature.

(d) Hens will not be slaughtered on the poultry owner's property.

(e) Hens shall be maintained in a healthy condition. Ill hens shall either receive appropriate medical care or be culled.

(7) Failure to comply with these conditions may result in revocation of the license and fine not to exceed \$750 per day.

Section 5. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be held invalid, the invalidity thereof shall not affect any other provision of this Ordinance.

Section 6. All ordinances, resolutions, motions or orders in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 7. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage, as a matter of urgency, to preserve and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the City and its residents pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/1-2-4.

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ADOPTED this 25th day of August, 2020, pursuant to roll call as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	PRESENT	ABSTAIN
Alderman JOHNSON	X				
Alderman ALEXANDER	X				
Alderman BILOTTO	X				
Alderman CAZARES			X		
Alderman RITA	X				
Alderman DONAHUE			X		
Alderman HAWLEY	X				
Alderman FAHRENWALD	X				
Alderman MECH	X				
Alderman HILL	X				
Alderman CANTELO-ZYLMAN	X				
Alderman CARR	X				
Alderman STEVO		X			
Alderman KLINKER	X				
Mayor DOMINGO F. VARGAS					
	11	1	2		

APPROVED: this 25th day of August, 2020.

**MAYOR OF THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND,
COUNTY OF COOK AND STATE OF ILLINOIS**

ATTESTED and Filed in my office this
25th day of August, 2020.

CITY CLERK

PUBLISHED in pamphlet form this
25th day of August, 2020.

CITY CLERK

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) SS
COUNTY OF COOK)

CERTIFICATE

I, RANDY HEUSER, certify that I am the duly elected and acting Municipal Clerk of the City of Blue Island of Cook County, Illinois.

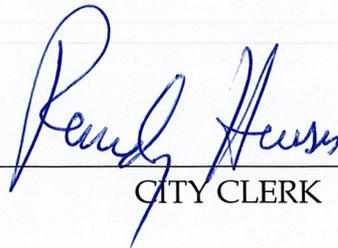
I further certify that on **August 25, 2020** the Corporate Authorities of such municipality passed and approved Ordinance No. **2020 - 031** Entitled:
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS AMENDING CHAPTER 90 OF THE CODE OF BLUE ISLAND, ILLINOIS REGARDING THE KEEPING OF POULTRY.

Which provided by its terms that it should be published in pamphlet form.

The pamphlet form of Ordinance No. **2020 - 031** including the Ordinance and a cover sheet thereof, was prepared, and a copy of such Ordinance posted in the municipal building commencing on **August 25, 2020** and continuing for at least ten days thereafter. Copies of such Ordinance were also available for public inspection upon request in the office of the municipal clerk.

DATED at Blue Island, Illinois, this **25th** day of **August, 2020**.

CORPORATE SEAL



CITY CLERK