

**ORDINANCE NO. 1877-25**  
**(Amendment regarding chicken standards)**

The City of Reedsburg, Sauk County, Wisconsin, does hereby ordain as follows:

SECTION I: PURPOSE.

The purpose of this ordinance is to allow a limited number of chickens (hens) on residential use and school use properties within the city limits.

SECTION II: PROVISIONS AMENDED.

City of Reedsburg Code Section §690-46(G) is hereby added to this Ordinance.

§690-46(G) Chickens. Chickens may be raised in the R-1, R-2, R-3 and B-3 zoning districts as well as public or private school properties provided the following conditions are met:

- (1) The chickens are raised by the property owner, or by a tenant with permission from the owner.
- (2) Roosters are prohibited.
- (3) A maximum of **eight (8)** chickens are permitted.
- (4) The chickens shall be provided with a covered coop to include a run, fence enclosure of predator-proof material (no electric or barbed wire) and adequate shade from the sun and warmth from the cold weather. Feed and clean water shall be provided at all times but unavailable to predators or rodents.
- (5) Coops must be clean, dry, and odor-free, kept in a neat and sanitary condition at all times, in a manner that will not disturb the use or enjoyment of neighboring lots due to noise, odor, or other adverse impact.
- (6) Provision must be made for the storage and removal of chicken manure. All stored manure shall be covered by a fully enclosed structure with a lid. All other manure not used for composting or fertilizing shall be removed from the premises. The coop and surrounding area must be kept free of accumulated droppings, and uneaten feed shall be removed as soon as possible.
- (7) The property owner or tenant shall take necessary action to reduce the attraction of predators and rodents and the potential infestation of insects and parasites.
- (8) The coop **or specific coop space** shall be a minimum two square feet per chicken to a maximum five square feet per chicken.
- (9) Chickens shall be kept inside a fence enclosure or run at all time and inside the coop during non-daylight hours.
- (10) Slaughtering of chickens on a residential-use or school lot is prohibited.
- (11) Coops and runs shall be located in the rear yard and a minimum 10' from any lot line.
- (12) The keeping of chickens shall require a permit issued by the Zoning Administrator. A permit shall not be issued until the Police Dept. has verified no pattern of previous animal-related violations by the applicant. ~~The fee shall be \$35 for the initial permit and \$10 for annual renewals.~~
- (13) Reedsburg Police Department personnel are authorized to catch and impound animals at-large with such authorization to include the pursuit of animals upon non-animal owner private property. It shall be a violation of this Ordinance to interfere with the Animal Control Officer or the Police Department employee in the performance of their duties.
- (14) The standards of Article XIX shall apply to the keeping of chickens.
- (15) **Any person or property owner in violation of this section may be subject a forfeiture of \$50 plus costs for each day of violation.** In the event a permit holder accumulates three violations, the permit may be revoked following a hearing with the Plan Commission. The Plan Commission shall also review all appeals under this subsection.

SECTION IV: VALIDITY.

Should any section, clause or provision of the ordinance be declared by the courts to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any part thereof, other than the part so declared to be invalid.

SECTION V: CONFLICTING PROVISIONS REPEALED.

All ordinances in conflict with any provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION VI: EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance shall be in force from and after its introduction and publication as provided by statute.

SECTION VII: PART OF CODE:

This Ordinance becomes part of the City of Reedsburg Code, Chapter 690.

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025.

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David G. Estes, Mayor

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Jacob Crosetto, Clerk/Treasurer

1st Reading at Council:

March 24, 2025

Public Hearing Noticed:

April 3 & April 10, 2025

2nd Reading at Council/Public Hearing:

April 28, 2025

Published, Enactment Date:

May 8, 2025