

CITY OF RAVENNA, TEXAS
ORDINANCE NO. 17

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING DEFINITIONS, PROHIBITING THE KEEPING OF LIVESTOCK AND FOWL WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS UNLESS REQUIREMENTS ARE MET, CONTAINING A PENALTY CLAUSE, FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT THE MEETINGS AT WHICH THIS ORDINANCE WAS PASSED WERE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND PROPERLY PUBLISHED FOR HEARING AS REQUIRED BY LAW, CONTAINING A SAVINGS CLAUSE, CONTAINING A CONFLICT LIMITATION CLAUSE, AND CONTAINING A REPEALER CLAUSE.

WHEREAS, for the purpose of this ordinance the following definitions shall apply:

1. *Keeping, maintaining, and/or harboring* means the act of keeping and caring for an animal, or of providing a premises to which an animal returns for food, shelter, or care.
2. *Owner* means any person who has a right of property in an animal, or who harbors any animal, or who allows an animal to remain about his premises.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF RAVENNA, FANNIN COUNTY, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. The keeping of any livestock or fowl including but not limited to hogs, pigs, swine, horses, mules, jacks, jennets, ponies, cows, goats, sheep, chickens, hens, roosters, turkeys, emus, ostriches, or similar farm-type animals is hereby declared to be a nuisance within the corporate limits of the City of Ravenna, Texas, and is hereby prohibited unless the following requirements are met:

(A) There shall be a minimum enclosed or fenced space of one-half acre (21,780 square feet) for each of the above listed or similar livestock animals except fowl kept within the city limits. Such one-half acre per animal shall be in addition to the area on which a residence or business structure is located. Barns or sheds used for the protection of the livestock against the elements may be located within the required area of the one-half acre per animal.

(B) There shall be a minimum enclosed or fenced space of twelve (12) square feet for each chicken, hen, rooster, turkey, or similar type fowl kept within the city limits. Such twelve (12) square foot space per fowl shall be in addition to the area on which a residence or business structure is located. Chicken houses, coops, or other enclosures for the protection of the fowl against the elements may be located within the required twelve square feet per animal.

SECTION 2. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, corporation, partnership, or association to violate any of the provisions of this ordinance. Any person violating these provisions shall, upon first conviction, be fined not less than sixty dollars (\$60.00) nor more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00). Any person violating the provisions of this ordinance shall, upon second conviction, be fined not less than two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) and not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

SECTION 3. It is hereby officially found and determined that the meetings at which this ordinance was passed were open to the public as required by the law and that notice of the time, place, and purposes of said meetings was given as required. Further it is hereby officially found and determined that this ordinance was introduced in writing in the form in which it was to finally passed and once introduced, a notice of the time and place when and where it was given a public hearing and considered for final passage was published at least seven (7) days prior to the time advertised for such public hearing. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its final passage.

SECTION 4. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word in this ordinance, or application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not effect the validity of the remaining portions of the ordinance, and the City Commission hereby declares that it would have passed such remaining portions of the ordinance despite such invalidity.

SECTION 5. This ordinance shall not be construed so as to conflict with any superior law including but not limited to: the City Charter of the City of Ravenna; federal law, statute, or code; or other similar superior orders, rules or regulations.

SECTION 6. All ordinances, parts of ordinances, resolutions, or policies of the City of Ravenna in conflict or to come in conflict with this ordinance are expressly repealed to the extent of such conflict.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON FIRST READING ON THIS 15 DAY OF
July, 1996, A.D.

PASSED AND APPROVED ON SECOND READING ON THIS 15 DAY OF
July, 1996, A.D.

Lyndon Hale Mayor
Lyndon Hale, Mayor

ATTEST:

David Jones
David Jones, City Secretary