

Ordinance No. 20-4829

Ordinance amending Title 8, entitled "Police Regulations," Chapter 4, entitled "Animal Services," to prohibit feeding of deer.

Whereas, Resolution No. 19-216 approved the City's Long-Term Deer Management Plan; Whereas, the Long-Term Deer Management Plan calls for consideration of amending the City Code to prohibit intentionally feeding deer;

Whereas, deer fed by humans become dependent on the easy food source, and because deer are wild animals, it is better for the health of the deer to forage for themselves;

Whereas, the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach recommends never feeding deer due to risks to the deer of transmitting chronic wasting disease;

Whereas, according to wildlife experts, feeding deer often makes them more vulnerable to starvation, predation, disease, and vehicle collisions, among other things and disrupts their natural biology;

Whereas, prohibiting the feeding of deer is consistent with the City's ongoing efforts to control its urban deer population; and

Whereas, it is in the best interest of the City to adopt this ordinance.

Now, therefore, be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Iowa City, Iowa:

Section I. Amendments.

1. Title 8, entitled "Police Regulations," Chapter 4, entitled "Animal Services," Section 10, entitled "Prohibited Acts and Conditions" is amended by adding the following new subsection H:

Prohibition: No person shall place, permit to be placed, or maintain on the ground, or within five feet (5') of the ground surface, any grain, fodder, salt licks, fruit, vegetables, nuts, hay or other edible materials (including feed for birds), which may reasonably be expected to result in deer feeding.

Exceptions:

1. Such materials that are screened or protected in a manner that prevent deer from feeding on them.
2. Living fruit trees and other live vegetation.
3. Spills of seed materials intended for planting or birds if the spills are incidental and such materials are not intentionally made available to deer.
4. Feeding done with written consent of the City for the purpose of killing deer pursuant to the City's deer management plan.

Section II. Repealer. All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict with the provision of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section III. Severability. If any section, provision or part of the Ordinance shall be adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

Section IV. Penalty. Violation of this ordinance shall be considered a municipal infraction as provided in Title 1, chapter 4 of this Code.

Section V. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in effect after its final passage, approval and publication, as provided by law.

Passed and approved this 15th day of September, 2020.

Bruce Teague  
Mayor

Attest: Kellie K. Gurdley  
City Clerk

Approved by Channah M. O'Neil  
City Attorney's Office – 08/12/2020

It was moved by Mims and seconded by Thomas that the Ordinance as read be adopted, and upon roll call there were:

| AYES:    | NAYS:         | ABSENT:       |        |
|----------|---------------|---------------|--------|
| <u>X</u> | <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> | Bergus |
| <u>X</u> | <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> | Mims   |
| <u>X</u> | <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> | Salih  |
| <u>X</u> | <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> | Taylor |
| <u>X</u> | <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> | Teague |
| <u>X</u> | <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> | Thomas |
| <u>X</u> | <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> | Weiner |

First Consideration 08/18/2020

Vote for passage: AYES: Weiner, Bergus, Mims, Salih, Taylor, Teague, Thomas. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Second Consideration 09/01/2020

Vote for passage: AYES: Mims, Salih, Taylor, Teague, Thomas, Weiner, Bergus. NAYS: None. ABSENT: None.

Date published 09/24/2020