

## ORDINANCE 2015-03

### **Ordinance clarification regarding pit bulls and other dangerous animals within the Village of Colfax, therefore,**

THE VILLAGE OF COLFAX BOARD OF TRUSTEES DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** Section 7-1-9 of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Colfax, Wisconsin, is hereby created as follows:

#### **SEC. 7-1-9 PIT BULLS AND OTHER DANGEROUS ANIMALS.**

- (a) **Keeping of Certain Animals Prohibited.** Except as provided herein, it shall be unlawful to keep, harbor, own or in any way possess within the corporate limits of the Village of Colfax:
- (1) **Exotic Animals.** Any warm-blooded, carnivorous or omnivorous, wild or exotic animal including but not limited to non-human primates, raccoons, skunks, foxes and wild and exotic cats.
  - (2) **Poisonous Animals.** Any animal having poisonous bites
  - (3) **Regulated Dogs.** Any regulated dog provided that regulated dogs complying with the provisions of this Section may be kept within the Village subject to the standards and requirements set forth in Subsection (b) of this Section. There shall be a presumption that any dog which substantially conforms or exhibits the distinguishing characteristics or substantially conforms to the standards describing the physical characteristics as recognized by the American Kennel Club, the United Kennel Club or Continental Kennel Club for a particular breed which is regulated by this Section, shall be deemed a dog of the breed so regulated. "Regulated dog" as that term is used in this Section is defined to mean:
    - a. The Staffordshire bull terrier breed of dog;
    - b. The American pit bull terrier breed of dog;
    - c. The American Staffordshire terrier breed of dog;
    - d. The Perro de Presa Canario breed of dog, otherwise known as Presa Canario, also known as Canary Dog or Presa dog;
    - e. The Rottweiler breed of dog;
    - f. The Rhodesian Ridgeback breed of dog;
    - g. The Tosa Inu breed of dog;
    - h. Any dog which has the appearance and characteristic of being predominantly of any of the above-listed breed or breeds of dogs.
- (b) **Keeping of Regulated Dogs.** The provisions of Subsection (a) are not applicable to parties who own, keep or harbor regulated dogs within the Village of Colfax, provided there is full compliance with the following conditions:

- (1) **Leash and Muzzle.** No person shall permit a regulated dog to go outside its kennel or pen unless such dog is securely leashed with a leash no longer than four (4) feet in length. No person shall permit a regulated dog to be kept on a chain, rope or other type of leash outside its kennel or pen unless a person is in physical control of the leash. Such dogs may not be leashed to inanimate objects such as trees, posts, buildings, etc. In addition, all regulated dogs on a leash outside the animal's kennel or pen must be muzzled by a muzzling device sufficient to prevent such dog from biting persons or other animals.
- (2) **Confinement.** All regulated dogs shall be securely confined indoors or in a securely enclosed and locked pen or kennel except when leashed and muzzled as provided in Subsection (b)(1). All pens or kennels shall comply with all zoning, building and health regulations of the Village and shall be kept in a clean and sanitary condition.
- (3) **Confinement Indoors.** No regulated dog may be kept on a porch, patio or in any part of a house or structure that would allow the dog to exit such building on its own volition.
- (4) **Insurance.**
  - (a) All owners, keepers or harborers of regulated dogs must within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Section provide proof to the Clerk-Treasurer of public liability insurance in the amounts of:
    1. Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) for bodily injury or death to any one person with the limit, however, of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) for bodily injury or death resulting from any one incident/accident; and
  - (b) The Village of Colfax shall be named as an additional insured under such insurance and a copy of the current in-force policy shall be deposited with the Clerk-Treasurer. Such insurance policy shall provide that no cancellation of the policy will be made unless ten (10) days' written notice is first given to the Clerk-Treasurer.
- (5) **Registration.** All owners, keepers or harborers of regulated dogs shall within thirty (30) days after the effective date of this Section register said dog with the Village by filing with the Village Clerk-Treasurer two (2) color photographs of the dog clearly showing the color and approximate size of the dog.
- (6) **Reporting Requirements.** All owners, keepers or harborers of registered regulated dogs must within ten (10) days of the incident, report the following information in writing to the Village Clerk-Treasurer:
  - a. The removal from the Village or death of a registered regulated dog;
  - b. The birth of offspring of a registered regulated dog;
  - c. The new address of a registered regulated dog should the dog be moved within the Village of Colfax;
  - d. If the registered dog is sold, the name and address of the new owner.
- (7) **Animals Born of Registered Dogs.** All offspring born of registered dogs registered within the Village must be removed from the Village within six (6) weeks after the birth of said animal.

**Section 2.** This ordinance shall take effect after its passage and publication as provided by law.

Village of Colfax

---

Scott A. Gunnufson, President

ATTEST:

---

Lynn M. Niggemann  
Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer

Adopted: May 26, 2015

Published: June 3, 2015