

**NOTTINGHAM TOWNSHIP**  
**Washington County, Pennsylvania**

**Ordinance No. 80**

**AN ORDINANCE OF NOTTINGHAM TOWNSHIP,  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, PROHIBITING  
THE KEEPING OF CERTAIN ANIMALS AND PRESCRIBING  
PENALTIES, THE SEIZING OF ANIMALS, AND/OR  
REQUESTING INJUNCTIVE RELIEF FOR VIOLATIONS OF  
THIS ORDINANCE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Nottingham Township Board of Supervisors determined that it is in the best interests of the residents of Nottingham Township to prohibit the keeping of certain animals and prescribing penalties for violations of the same within Nottingham Township; and,

**WHEREAS**, it is the intent of the Nottingham Township Board of Supervisors to protect the public against health and safety risks that exotic animals pose to the community and to protect the welfare of the animals; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Nottingham Township Board of Supervisors understand that exotic animals, by their nature, are wild and potentially dangerous and, as such, may not adjust well to a captive environment.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it ordained and enacted by the Board of Supervisors of Nottingham Township, and IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED AND ENACTED, as follows:

**SECTION 1-DEFINITIONS**

**Exotic Animal**—“Exotic Animal” means any animal that is not normally domesticated in the United States or is wild by nature. Exotic animals include, but are not limited to, any or all of the following orders and families, whether bred in the wild or in captivity, and also any or all of their hybrids with domestic species. The animals listed in parentheses are intended to act as examples and are not be construed as an exhaustive list or limit the generality of each group of animals, unless otherwise specified.

- A. Non-human primates and prosimians (monkeys, chimpanzees, baboons)
- B. Felidae (lions, tigers, bobcats, cougars, leopards, jaguars, mountain lions and non-domesticated cats)
- C. Canidae (wolves, coyotes, foxes, jackals, not domesticated dogs)
- D. Ursidae (all bears)
- E. Reptilia (all venomous snakes & all constricting snakes)
- F. Crocodilia (alligators, crocodiles and caiman)
- G. Proboscidae (elephants)
- H. Hyaenidae (hyenas)
- I. Artiodactyla (hippopotamuses, giraffes, camels, but not cattle, swine, sheep or goats)
- J. Procyonidae (raccoons, coatis)
- K. Marsupialia (kangaroos, opossums)
- L. Perissodactyla (rhinoceroses, tapirs, but not horses, donkeys or mules)
- M. Edentata (anteaters, sloths, armadillos)
- N. Viverridae (mongooses, civets and genets)

## **SECTION 2—KEEPING OF EXOTIC ANIMALS PROHIBITED**

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person to own, possess, keep, harbor, bring, or have in one's possession, an exotic animal(s) within Township limits.
- B. It shall be unlawful for the owner, possessor, or any other person in control of a lot, tract, or parcel of land within Township limits, or any residence or business premises situated thereon, to knowingly permit any other person to be in possession of an exotic animal upon the property, residence or premises.
- C. No animal located in the Township prior to the enactment of this Ordinance shall be exempt from the provisions of this Ordinance.

## **SECTION 3—VIOLATIONS, PENALTIES, SEIZING AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

- A. Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any provision of this Ordinance upon conviction thereof in an action brought before a district justice in the manner provided for the enforcement of summary offenses under the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure, shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$150.00 and not more than \$1,000.00, plus costs and, in default of a payment of said fine and costs, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed ninety (90) days. Each day that a violation of this Ordinance continues, or each section of this Ordinance which shall be found to have been violated, shall constitute a separate offense.
- B. In addition to the foregoing, the Township may, at its sole discretion, cause to be seized any animal which is located in Nottingham Township in violation of this Ordinance. Furthermore, the Township may seek injunctive relief in the Court of Common Pleas of Washington County requiring any animal located in Nottingham Township in violation of this Ordinance be removed. These remedies available to the Township are not mutually exclusive and the Township may, at its sole discretion, fine any person, cause to be seized any animal, and/or request injunctive relief regarding the same for violations of this Ordinance.

## **SECTION 4—EXEMPTIONS**

The provisions of this Ordinance shall not apply to:

- A.
  - 1. Institutions accredited by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association;
  - 2. Licensed humane societies;
  - 3. Animal control officers;
  - 4. Licensed veterinary hospitals or clinics;
  - 5. Any animal authorized as permitted by the Pennsylvania Game Commission for humanitarian purposes.

## **SECTION 5—REPEALER**

That any ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of said inconsistency.

**SECTION 6-SEVERABILITY**

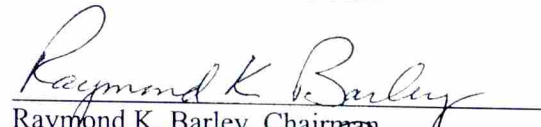
If any section, clause or part of this Ordinance is for any reason found to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, such unconstitutionality, illegality or invalidity shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sentences, clauses, sections or parts of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared as the intent of the Board of Supervisors of Nottingham Township, Pennsylvania, that this Ordinance would have been adopted had such unconstitutional, illegal or invalid sentence, clause, section or part thereof not have been included therein.

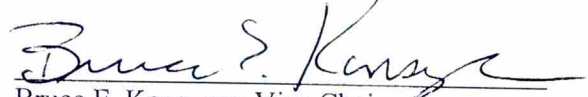
**SECTION 7-EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage, or as otherwise allowed by law, whichever is earlier.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED THIS 20th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2006.

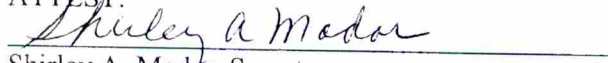
**NOTTINGHAM TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

  
Raymond K. Barley, Chairman

  
Bruce E. Konsugar, Vice Chairman

  
Douglas S. King, Member

ATTEST:

  
Shirley A. Madar, Secretary