

Ordinance No. 3-3-2025

## ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF ST. JOE

An Ordinance concerning Health & Public Safety as it relates to Animal Control and Regulation

### Ordinance of the Town of St. Joe Animal Control and Regulation

#### Purpose:

This ordinance updates the previous animal control regulations in St. Joe, Indiana, to better address animal-related concerns within the town limits.

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#### Definitions:

- **Animal:** Includes all mammals, like dogs, cats, goats, pigs, and other similar creatures.
- **At Large:** An animal that's not under the owner's control, either by leash or other means.
- **Dog:** Any canine, whether male, female, or neutered.
- **Domestic Animals:** Includes pets like dogs, cats, and small birds kept indoors.
- **Frequently/ Habitually Barking Dog:** A dog that barks regularly and disturbs neighbors.
- **Wild Animals:** Dangerous animals that pose a safety threat, such as bears, wolves, and large snakes.

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#### Dog Regulations:

- **Dogs Running at Large:** Dogs must not roam freely. If a dog escapes due to a malfunctioning leash, the owner may be given a correction notice.
- **Disturbing the Peace:** Dogs that bark excessively, especially at night, disturb the peace. Dogs barking for more than 10 consecutive minutes between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. are in violation.
- **Dog Waste:** Owners must clean up their dog's waste and dispose of it in a trash bin.
- **Vaccination:** Dogs must have proof of rabies vaccination before being released from impoundment.
- **Tags:** All dogs must wear tags with the owner's name and phone number.

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#### Other Animal Regulations:

- **Animals Running at Large:** Animals must not roam freely.
- **Number of Pets:** A maximum of 8 animals combined can be kept in residential areas. Litters must be reduced within 8-12 weeks.
- **Animal Waste Disposal:** Pet owners must clean up waste immediately, or face penalties. Service animals are exempt from this requirement.
- **Noxious Odors:** Pets causing strong odors must be dealt with, and owners who fail to clean up waste after repeated notices may face penalties.

- **Certain Animals Prohibited:** Horses, pigs, and other large farm animals are not allowed within town limits, except for transportation.
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**Impoundment:**

- **Redemption:** Owners can redeem impounded animals within 5 business days by paying fees.
  - **Disposition:** If unclaimed after 5 days, the animal may be sold or disposed of humanely.
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**Chicken Regulations:**

- **Permit Required:** A permit is needed to keep up to 12 chickens. A \$100 fee is charged. The permit is non-transferable.
  - **Conditions:** Chickens must have enough space, adequate shelter, and be kept away from neighboring domicil (30 feet). No roosters are allowed.
  - **Inspections:** The facilities must be inspected before a permit is granted, ensuring they are clean and safe.
  - **Nuisances:** Chickens must not create nuisances like odors or excessive noise.
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**Enforcement:**

The town officials (President, Council, Clerk-Treasurer) are responsible for enforcing this ordinance. Violators may face fines and the town may take legal action to stop violations.

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**Penalties:**

- **First Offense:** \$25 to \$100 fine.
  - **Second Offense:** \$100 to \$500 fine.
  - **Subsequent Offenses:** Fines up to \$2,500.
  - **Chickens:** Penalties for violations of chicken regulations include warnings, fines, and possible revocation of the chicken-keeping permit.
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**Other Ordinances:**

Any conflicting ordinances are repealed to the extent of this new regulation.

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**Effective Date:**

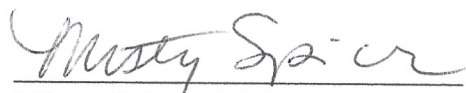
This ordinance is effective upon passage, adoption, approval, and publication according to the laws of the State of Indiana.

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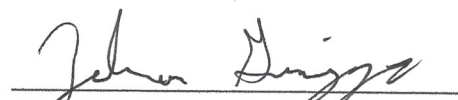
This ordinance is duly passed by the Town Board of the Town of St. Joe, Indiana, on the 4 day of March, 2025



Randy Drake, President

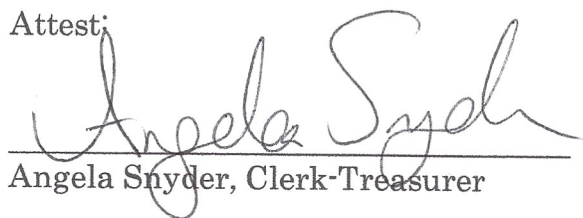


Misty Spicer, Member



Zebulon Griggs, Member

Attest:



Angela Snyder, Clerk-Treasurer

