

## **Sioux City Municipal Code**

### **Section 7.02.025 Maximum number of domestic animals.**

1. It shall be unlawful for an owner or caretaker of any residential unit to knowingly allow more than two (2) domestic animals of the same species or no more than three (3) domestic animals in total of any species over the age of six (6) months to be kept within the city limits.

2. The number of domestic animals permitted in subsection (1) may be increased by obtaining a permit issued by the city manager or the city manager's designee. Such permit shall specify any restrictions, limitations, conditions, or prohibitions, and include the applicant's consent to a voluntary initial inspection and periodic inspections during the term of the permit which the city manager or the city manager's designee deems reasonably necessary to protect any person or neighboring use from unsanitary conditions, unreasonable noise or odors, or annoyance, or to protect the public health or safety. Such a permit may be modified from time to time or revoked by the city manager or the city manager's designee for failure to conform to such restrictions, limitations, conditions, or prohibitions outlined by the community development director or the community development director's designee. The permit may be revoked at any time for violation of state or local laws or regulations. Such modification or revocation shall be effective from and after ten (10) days following the mailing of written notice thereof by certified mail to the person or persons keeping or maintaining such animals. At no time will a permit be issued for a residence with more than two (2) unspayed or un-neutered animals of the same species, unless a commercial kennel license is obtained in accordance with State of Iowa statutes and/or municipal codes.

3. An application for a permit issued under this section may be denied for the following reasons:

a. The maintenance of an unsanitary premises by the applicant due to animals;  
b. A conviction or plea of guilt for an incident concerning animal torture, animal abuse, or animal neglect;

c. Three or more convictions or pleas of guilt within the previous twelve (12) month period for incidents concerning:

- (1) An animal at large;
- (2) An animal disturbing the peace;
- (3) An unlicensed animal;
- (4) An animal that has not received the compulsory rabies immunization;

d. False, misleading, or incomplete information on the application.

4. All permits issued hereunder shall be effective for the specific property and person listed on said permit and shall be in full effect for two (2) years or until surrendered or revoked. At the end of the two (2) year period, the permit must be reapplied for. An initial fee for such permit shall be ten dollars (\$10.00). The fee shall be paid at the time of the application or application renewal. The city will conduct an initial inspection, and at its discretion, periodically inspect the premises to determine continued allowance of the permit. The owner or caretaker shall display or have readily available the permit allowing for the extra animals.

5. Any applicant who is denied a permit may request a hearing before the city manager or the city manager's designee by filing a written appeal with the city clerk within ten (10) days of the denial. The appeal shall be heard by the city manager or the city manager's designee within fifteen (15) days of the date of the notice of the appeal. The applicant may be represented by counsel and may be allowed to submit a written statement in the applicant's defense prior to the hearing as well as present evidence at the hearing.

(Ord. 2012-0649; 2007-0100, 2006-0676)