

**TAYLORSVILLE, UTAH**  
**ORDINANCE NO. 23-07**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TAYLORSVILLE APPROVING A TEXT  
AMENDMENT TO TAYLORSVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 8.12.140,  
RELATED TO PLACEMENT OF CHICKEN COOPS ON IRREGULARLY SHAPED  
PARCELS.**

**WHEREAS**, the Taylorsville City Council (the “Council”) met in regular session on June 7, 2023, to consider, among other things, approving a text amendment to the Taylorsville Municipal Code Sections 8.12.140 related to the placement of chicken coops on irregularly shaped parcels; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to TAYLORSVILLE MUNICIPAL CODE Section 13.35.040, notice of a public hearing before the City’s Planning Commission was posted at City Hall on April 29, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the notice of a public hearing before the City’s Planning Commission was also published on the Utah Public Notice Website on May 5, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the City’s Planning Commission held a properly noticed public hearing on the proposed amendments on May 9, 2023, during which the Planning Commission voted 6-0 to recommend that the Council approve the proposed text amendment; and

**WHEREAS**, although not required by City ordinances, the City Council heard courtesy public comment on the proposed amendments during its regularly scheduled meeting on June 7, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, after careful consideration, the Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Taylorsville to approve the proposed amendments.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Taylorsville City Council that the proposed text amendments to the Taylorsville Municipal Code Section 8.12.140, related to placement of chicken coops on irregularly shaped parcels, are hereby approved, as articulated in Exhibit “A.”

This ordinance, assigned Ordinance No. 23-07, shall take effect as soon as it shall be published or posted as required by law, deposited and recorded in the office of the City Recorder, and accepted as required herein.

## EXHIBIT A

### 8.12.140: BACKYARD-RESIDENTIAL CHICKEN PERMIT:

A. Where permitted by the land development code, persons may keep backyard chickens on single-family owner occupied residential and agricultural lots in accordance with the provisions of this section: (Ord. 10-07, 5-19-2010; amd. Ord. 12-15, 7-11-2012)

1. Application; Obtaining Permit: It is unlawful for any person to keep backyard chickens without first making application for and obtaining a backyard-residential chicken permit.

2. At Large: It is unlawful for any person who is the owner, keeper, or temporary custodian of any backyard-residential chicken to allow the animal(s) to be at large, off the premises or outside the approved enclosure.

3. Unsanitary Conditions: It is unlawful for any person to keep and maintain in an unclean or unsanitary condition any coop, enclosure or other structure or area in which any backyard chicken is kept. All droppings must be cleaned at least once a week.

4. Nuisance: It is unlawful for the owner or keeper of any backyard chicken to allow the animal(s) to be a nuisance to any neighbor, including, but not limited to, creating noxious odors from the animals, their waste, coop, or related structure or generating noise of a loud and persistent nature.

5. Subject To Inspection: All places where any backyard chickens are kept shall be subject to inspection prior to a permit being issued for cleanliness, health, and sanitation purposes by a code enforcement official, animal control officer, or representative of the Salt Lake Valley health department. A code enforcement official, animal control officer, or representative of the Salt Lake Valley health department shall also be authorized to inspect any property where backyard chickens are kept based on any complaint or observation that the requirements of this section or conditional use permit requirement are in violation.

6. Female Chickens Only: Only female chickens may be kept. No ducks, geese, turkeys, peafowl, crowing hens, or roosters may be kept. No other bird species shall be kept except as provided by this code and birds normally and generally considered household or indoor pets. (Ord. 10-07, 5-19-2010)

7. Accessory Buildings: Chicken coops shall be considered accessory buildings and are subject to the area provisions of the Taylorsville land development code. Height and setback provisions shall be determined by this section but shall in no cases violate setback or height limitations of the zoning ordinance with the exception of proximity to a main structure. (Ord. 10-07, 5-19-2010; amd. Ord. 12-15, 7-11-2012)

8. Feed And Water Access: Chickens shall have access to feed and water at all times in an area that is protected from wild birds, rodents, and other predators. Any stored feed must be kept in a rodent and predator proof container.

9. Personal Use Only: Backyard-Residential chickens shall be for personal use only. The selling of eggs or fertilizer or the breeding of chickens for commercial use is prohibited.

10. Slaughtering Prohibited: The slaughtering of backyard-residential chickens on the premises is prohibited.

11. Dead Birds; Rotting Eggs: Dead birds and rotting eggs shall be removed within twenty four (24) hours and properly disposed of.

- e. Chicken coops shall be maintained in good condition.
- f. Chicken coops shall be constructed such that:
  - (1) It is freestanding.
  - (2) Is easily accessible for cleaning and maintenance.
  - (3) Is enclosed on all sides and has a roof and door(s).
  - (4) Doors must be able to be shut and locked.
  - (5) No chicken coop shall exceed eight feet (8') in height.
  - (6) The coop shall be covered with predator and bird proof wire with a maximum opening of one-fourth inch ( $\frac{1}{4}$ "). The wire shall be buried at least three inches (3") and bent outward at least another twenty four inches (24") to prevent rodents from burrowing into the structure unless the coop is elevated off the ground at least twelve inches (12").
  - (7) All openings and vents shall be covered with predator and bird proof wire with a maximum opening of one-fourth inch ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ").
- g. Coops may be relocated from time to time within the back yard provided that it remains within or adjacent to the enclosure and adheres to all setback standards.
- 15. Backyard-Residential Chicken Permit Application Requirements:
  - a. Prior to the issuance of any backyard-residential chicken permit, the applicant shall submit the following information:
    - (1) A completed and signed application.
    - (2) Appropriate fee.
    - (3) A site plan showing the exact location of the enclosure and coop, including measured distances from all dwellings and property lines, including buildings on adjacent properties.
    - (4) A photograph or illustration of the proposed enclosure and coop, including construction materials, height, and other dimensions.
    - (5) Signed consent to an on site inspection of all enclosures, coops and surroundings.
- 16. Side And Rear Setbacks:
  - a. Minimum rear yard: Three feet (3') minimum from any coop to any rear property line.
  - b. Side yard setback: Three feet (3') minimum from any coop to any side property line.
- 17. Maximum Number Of Chickens:

| Lot Size (Square Feet) | Maximum Number Of Chickens |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Lot Size (Square Feet) | Maximum Number Of Chickens |
| Less than 5,000        | 0                          |
| 5,000 to 5,999         | 2                          |
| 6,000 to 6,999         | 3                          |
| 7,000 to 7,999         | 4                          |
| 8,000 to 8,999         | 5                          |
| 9,000 to 9,999         | 6                          |
| 10,000 to 11,999       | 8                          |
| 12,000 or more         | 10                         |