

Official

PARADISE TOWNSHIP

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Ordinance No. 6

AN ORDINANCE to prevent wild animals from being kept or allowed to be kept on any premises in the Township of Paradise.

THE TOWNSHIP OF PARADISE ORDAINS:

Section I: Purpose

To protect the people of Paradise Township from harm and to promote better living conditions within the Township for wild animals.

Section II:

It is hereby determined that wild animals by nature cannot be kept from presenting imminent certain harm or peril. And accordingly wild animals shall not be kept or allowed to be kept on any premise in the Township of Paradise unless:

The DNR has issued a wild animal permit. A wild animal permit shall note any necessary conditions to be met by the owner of the wild animal for the protection of the public. Failure to abide by the conditions noted on the wild animal permit shall be a violation. A wild animal permit may be issued only for the following:

1. A bona fide public zoo for public purpose.
2. A bona fide licensed circus.
3. A person licensed by the State of Michigan to temporarily harbor and treat an injured animal or an animal designated as belonging to an endangered species until permanent quarters are found.

This ordinance also adds a section that differentiates between domestic, farm and wild animals. They are defined as follows:

DOMESTIC ANIMALS

Means an animal which a zoo director determines is not likely to bite without provocation nor cause death, maiming or illness of a

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human, including but not limited to the following animals: Bird (caged), fish, rodent (bred), cat (domestic), lizard (non-poisonous), snake (non-poisonous), dog, poairie dog (bred).

FARM ANIMALS

Means any horse, swine, cattle, sheep, goat, llama, chicken, goose, duck or turkey, or more than one rabbit.

Farm animal also means any other animal other than dogs or cats raised for commercial profit or slaughter.

WILD ANIMALS

Means any animal not bred by humans or any animal which a zoo director would determine is likely to bite without provocation or cause the death, maiming or illness of a human including but not limited to the animals listed below. Wild animal also means any animal which a person is prohibited from possessing by law.

Alligator (family), deer (family), opossum (family), badger, dog (wild family), primate (family), bear, dog-wolf, racoon, bird (wild), ferret, skunk, cat (wild family), lemur, spider (poisonous), cayote, lizard (poisonous), weasel (family), martin.

Section III:

A. The ordinance shall be enforced by the Township enforcement officer designated by the Township Board.

B. The owner of, if possible, and the property owner of any property upon which wild animals are being kept as described in Section II shall be notified by certified mail to remove or obtain permits for all wild animals in 10 (10) days.

C. Failure by the owner and/or property owner to comply with such notice within the time allowed, shall constitute a violation of this ordinance.

D. Violation of this ordinance shall be a misdemeanor which shall be punishable upon conviction thereof by a fine not exceeding Five Hundred (\$500) Dollars or by imprisonment not exceeding Ninety (90) days or by both, such fine and imprisonment by the discretion of the court.

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Section IV:

This ordinance is hereby determined by the Township Board to be immediately necessary for the preservation of the peace, health and safety of the Township and shall be in full force and effect 30 days after publication in the Traverse City Record Eagle.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Township Board of the Township of Paradise, County of Grand Traverse, State of Michigan, on the 12th day of December, 1990, and approved by me on the 12th day of December, 1990.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kenneth D. Sleder", is written over a horizontal line.

Kenneth D. Sleder
Paradise Township Supervisor