

**TOWNSHIP OF PATTERSON
BEAVER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

ORDINANCE NO. 483

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PATTERSON,
BEAVER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING THE
CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PATTERSON, CHAPTER
190 THEREOF, ENTITLED ZONING, TO ALLOW FOR THE
KEEPING OF CHICKENS AS AN ACCESSORY USE
WITHIN ALL RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL ZONING
DISTRICTS.**

WHEREAS, the Township of Patterson, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, has in place an Ordinance regulating zoning within Patterson Township; and

WHEREAS, said Ordinance is contained in Chapter 190 of the Code of the Township of Patterson, Beaver County, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, the Code currently precludes the keeping and raising of poultry in all zoning districts except for the "P" Preservation District; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Patterson recognizes the desire of many residents within the Township to keep chickens for personal use; and

WHEREAS, the Patterson Township Board of Commissioners recognizes that its current zoning ordinance does not adequately provide for those residents who desire to keep chickens; and

WHEREAS, the Patterson Township Board of Commissioners believes that incorporating the keeping of chickens as an accessory use with strict guidelines will not adversely affect existing homes and communities; and

WHEREAS, the Patterson Township Board of Commissioners believes that providing for and permitting the keeping of chickens as an accessory use with the following conditions will address those needs while protecting the surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Patterson seeks to amend Chapter 190 to allow for the keeping of chickens as an accessory use in all residential and commercial zoning districts.

NOW, THEREFORE, being enacted and ordained by the Board of Commissioners, of the Township of Patterson, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, it is hereby enacted and ordained as follows:

1. **Chapter 190-4 Word Usage: Definitions** is amended by adding thereto the following definition of poultry:

POULTRY- Poultry shall include all birds, fowl, and waterfowl, unless specifically provided for as an accessory use.

2. **Section 190-12 Accessory Uses** is hereby amended by adding the following:

A. The keeping of chickens shall be allowed as an accessory use, subject to the requirements and standards in this section.

1. Any person wishing to engage in this accessory use shall submit an Application for Accessory Use to the applicable zoning officer for review and approval, with the fee as established by Resolution of the Township Board of Commissioners. There shall be submitted with all applications for the accessory use permit, two copies of a layout or plot plan drawn to scale showing the actual dimensions of the lot, the size and location of the coop and run and other such information as may be deemed necessary by the zoning officer to determine and provide for enforcement of this chapter. Approval shall be subject to the following standards:

- a. For the first 4,000 square feet of any property, up to three (3) chickens are allowed. An additional chicken is permitted for every additional 2,000 square feet. A maximum number of ten (10) chickens may be keep at once on a parcel.
- b. No person shall keep or maintain a rooster.
- c. The chicken coop shall be located in a backyard only, a minimum of ten (10) feet from any lot line, and shall be constructed to contain the chickens. Any chicken not contained shall be considered "running at large".

- d. An outside run may be attached to the coop and must be ten (10) feet from any lot line and be constructed to contain the chickens. Any chicken not contained shall be considered “running at large”.
 - e. All feed, water, and other items for keeping chickens shall be secured to prevent rats, mice, and other vermin from infesting.
 - f. Chicken feces must be properly collected, stored, and disposed of in a manner that prevents malodorous smells, nuisances, or other hazards.
 - g. The selling of chickens or chicken products for commercial purposes is prohibited.
 - h. Slaughtering and butchering of chickens is prohibited.
 - i. No chickens shall be kept in row house (townhouse) communities, apartment communities, multi-family or multiple-family dwellings, cluster developments, garden dwellings, or mobile home courts.
- 2. Each person who obtains an accessory use permit for the keeping of chickens, shall be required to annually file, with the zoning officer or designated representative, a registration renewal along with a fee to be set by Resolution adopted by the Township Commissioners.
 - 3. The zoning officer or designated representative shall inspect each property at least once annually. These annual inspections shall occur notwithstanding more frequent inspections that may be required in the investigation of complaints regarding the property.
 - 4. Nothing herein shall be interpreted to allow for the keeping of any other poultry, other than chickens.
 - 5. No chickens shall be permitted to run at large.

3. **Chapter 190-17 Accessory Uses** shall be amended by adding the following:
 - C. The keeping of chickens shall be a permitted accessory use pursuant to the same conditions and requirements as set forth in Section 190-12 of the R-1 Single Family Residential District.

4. **Chapter 190-23 Accessory Uses** shall be amended by adding the following:
 - C. The keeping of chickens shall be a permitted accessory use pursuant to the same conditions and requirements as set forth in Section 190-12 of the R-1 Single Family Residential District.

5. **Chapter 190-29 Accessory Uses** shall be amended by adding the following:
 - C. The keeping of chickens shall be a permitted accessory use pursuant to the same conditions and requirements as set forth in Section 190-12 of the R-1 Single Family Residential District.

6. **Chapter 190-35 Accessory Uses** shall be amended by adding thereto the following:
 - C. The keeping of chickens shall be a permitted accessory use pursuant to the same conditions and requirements as set forth in Section 190-12 of the R-1 Single Family Residential District.

7. **Chapter 190-41 Accessory Uses** shall be amended by adding the following:
 - C. The keeping of chickens shall be a permitted accessory use pursuant to the same conditions and requirements as set forth in Section 190-12 of the R-1 Single Family Residential District.

8. **Chapter 190-46 Accessory Uses** is hereby amended by adding the following:

- A. The keeping of chickens shall be a permitted accessory use pursuant to the same conditions and requirements as set forth in Section 190-12 of the R-1 Single Family Residential District.

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED this _____ day of _____, 2024, by the Commissioners of Patterson Township, County of Beaver in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

PATTERSON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BY: _____
President

ATTEST:

Township Secretary