



# MEMO

## PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

To: Common Council  
From: Dave Kittel, Director of Planning and Community Development  
Date: 8/23/2024  
Re: Pigeon Permit

A request to obtain a permit for pigeons has been received for 108 W. 7<sup>th</sup> street in the City of Kaukauna. Per Chapter [11.12 Keeping of Goats, Pigs, Rabbits, Fowl And Bees](#):

“No person shall keep or harbor any pigeons, doves, or game birds, or build, erect, or maintain and use on any lot or parcel of land within the city limits any building or yard for the purpose of keeping or housing pigeons, doves, or other fowl without first obtaining a written permit from the city board of health and payment of the fee of \$5.00 for a two-year period. The issuance of such written permit shall depend upon the compliance of the applicant with standards of health and sanitation as set down by the city board of health, and such premises shall be at all times open to inspection to representatives of such board.”

The City no longer has a board of health and falls under Outagamie County for most Health and sanitation items. Staff reached out to the County Health Department to inquire on this topic and this type of activity does not fall under the county health provisions of chapter 26 of the County codes. This places the decision back to the City and is why it is coming before the Common Council.

Currently there are a small number (5-6) of pigeons being kept at 108 W 7<sup>th</sup> street in an enclosure. The Pigeons are racing pigeons, and the owner trains them for competition/racing as a hobby. At various times of the day they are released from their enclosure for training and exercise.

Some concerns have been raised about the Pigeons form residents in part from droppings on property and concerns of harboring diseases.

**Recommendation:**

If the Council feels that Pigeons can be permitted in this situation specific items need to be addressed in regards to number of Pigeons, the enclosure, cleanliness, and when they can be released. Otherwise, Staff would not recommend approving this permit and request direction from the Council on updating the ordinance.



