

**CITY OF SHEBOYGAN  
ORDINANCE 15-25-26**

**BY ALDERPERSONS RUST AND LA FAVE.**

**SEPTEMBER 8, 2025.**

AN ORDINANCE amending sections of the Sheboygan Municipal Code related to dog kennel licenses and animal fancier permits.

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SHEBOYGAN DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1:**        **AMENDMENT** “Sec 8-18 Animal Fancier Permit” of the Sheboygan Municipal Code is hereby *amended* as follows:

**A M E N D M E N T**

**Sec 8-18 Animal Fancier Permit**

- (a) In this section, the term "domestic animal" includes all animals encompassed under the definitions provided in Wis. Stat. §§ 95.001(ad) and 169.01(7).
- (b) No person may keep, harbor, shelter or possess more than three domestic animals including fowl over the age of five months unless the person holds a valid animal fancier permit. There shall be no more than one animal fancier permit issued per dwelling unit.
- (c) The keeping of more than three domestic animals including fowl over the age of five months without an animal fanciers permit is declared to be a nuisance as defined in section 36-1.
- (d) This permit shall be included at no cost with pet licenses issued pursuant to sections 8-9(c) and 8-42. If a person has no pet license because the person owns only animals not requiring licenses, an animal fancier permit shall be issued upon the payment of \$3.00 on an annual basis. The permit year commences on January 1 and ends on the following December 31. The collecting official shall assess and collect a late fee of \$5.00 from every animal fancier applicant if the applicant fails to obtain a permit prior to April 1 of each year, or within 30 days of falling under the requirements of this section. All late fees received or collected shall be paid into the city treasury as city revenue.
- (e) Whenever a humane officer, the director of planning and development or their designee requests an inspection of the interior and exterior premises of a person holding an animal fancier permit or of an applicant for an animal fancier permit, the animal fancier or applicant shall schedule such an inspection and allow the inspection to be completed no later than ten days after the date of the request. A request for a department inspection under this subsection may be made by any of the following

means:

- (1) A written request left at the residence or place of occupation of the applicant or permit holder.
  - (2) A written request delivered to a competent adult occupant of the applicant's or permit holder's residence.
  - (3) A written request addressed to the applicant or permit holder at the applicant's residence and mailed by first class, prepaid mail.
- (f) Upon the denial of consent to inspect, a humane officer, the director of planning and development, or their designee may apply for an administrative warrant to inspect the premises. A person who fails to comply with an inspection request as required by this subsection may have their permit revoked and may be ineligible for an animal fanciers permit for a period of one year.
- (g) No person who has a criminal conviction for a violation under Wis. Stat. ch. 951 or who has multiple non-criminal convictions for violations under Wis. Stat. ch. 951 or this chapter shall be issued an animal fancier's permit unless the common council or the committee thereof designated for such purposes, upon the request of the person wishing to hold the permit, determines that the issuance of such a permit is in the best interest of the community, that the person wishing to hold the permit is unlikely to re-offend, and that the animals will be properly taken care of. Conditions may be attached to the issuance of a permit in such a situation at the complete discretion of the common council or committee.
- (h) A person holding an animal fancier permit who does not conform to the following requirements shall have their permit revoked and shall be ineligible for an animal fanciers permit for a period of one year. A person who is found not to conform to the requirements below on two or more occasions within a period of five years shall be permanently ineligible for an animal fanciers permit.
- (1) All animals shall be maintained in a healthy condition or, if ill, shall be given appropriate treatment immediately.
  - (2) The quarters in which the animals are kept shall be maintained in a clean condition and in a good state of repair.
  - (3) Animal pens or enclosures shall be large enough to provide freedom of movement to the animals contained therein and shall be constructed of nonporous and noncorrosive materials.
  - (4) Dogs shall be kept in separate enclosures from cats. Dogs and cats over the age of five months shall be housed in separate enclosures with no more than three dogs or three cats contained within the same enclosure.
  - (5) Food supplies shall be stored in rodent-proof containers and food and water containers shall be kept clean.
  - (6) Litter or bedding material shall be changed as often as necessary to prevent an odor nuisance.
  - (7) Feces shall be removed from yards, pens and enclosures at least daily and stored in tightly covered, secure containers until final disposal.
  - (8) Yards, pens, premises and animals shall be kept free of pest infestations.
  - (9) No odor nuisance shall be permitted. Any animal holding area containing

animals shall be provided with fresh air by means of windows, doors, vents, exhaust fans or air conditioning so as to minimize drafts, odors and moisture condensation.

(10) All animals shall have protection from the elements, whether indoors or outdoors.

- (i) The requirement to hold an animal fancier's permit applies to persons operating a commercial animal boarding facility pursuant to section 105-718(j) ~~holding kennel licenses pursuant to section 8-48~~ and persons operating pet shops, as they are defined in article I of this chapter, ~~except that any person paying the kennel license fee provided in section 8-48 may obtain the animal fancier's permit at no charge.~~

(Code 1997, § 18-57; Ord. No. 10-03-04, § 1, 7-7-2003; Ord. No. 16-03-04, § 1, 7-21-2003)

**SECTION 2:**        **REPEAL** “Sec 8-48 Dog Kennel Licenses” of the Sheboygan Municipal Code is hereby *repealed* as follows:

## REPEAL

Sec 8-48 ~~Dog Kennel Licenses~~ (Reserved)

- (a) ~~Any person who keeps or operates a kennel in compliance with applicable zoning requirements may, instead of the license tax for each dog required by section 8-42, apply to the collecting official for a kennel license for the keeping or operating of the kennel. Such person shall pay for the license year a license tax of \$55.00 for a kennel of 12 or fewer dogs and an additional \$5.00 for each dog in excess of 12. Upon payment of the required kennel license tax, upon presentation of evidence that all dogs over five months of age are currently immunized against rabies, and upon presentation of evidence that the kennel is in compliance with applicable zoning requirements, the collecting official shall issue the kennel license and a number of tags equal to the number of dogs authorized to be kept in the kennel.~~
- (b) ~~Kennel license tags shall be made in a form so that they may be readily distinguishable from the individual license tags for the same year. The owner or keeper of a kennel shall keep at all times a kennel license tag attached to the collar of each dog over five months old kept by the owner or keeper under a kennel license, but this requirement does not apply to a dog during competition or training, a dog securely confined indoors, a dog while hunting, or a dog securely confined in a fenced area. These tags may be transferred from one dog to another within the kennel whenever any dog is removed from the kennel. The rabies vaccination tag or substitute tag shall remain attached to the dog for which it is issued at all times, but this requirement does not apply to a dog during competition or training, to a dog while hunting or to a dog securely confined in a fenced area. No dog bearing a kennel tag shall be permitted to stray or to be taken anywhere outside the limits of the kennel unless the dog is on a leash or temporarily out for the purposes of hunting, breeding, trial, training or~~

~~competition.~~  
~~(e) Unless clearly inapplicable, all the provisions of this article relating to the individual dog license tax, licenses and tags shall apply to the kennel license and tags.~~

(Code 1975, § 7-33; Code 1997, § 18-54; Ord. No. 65-05-06, § 1, 12-5-2005)

**SECTION 3:            REPEALER CLAUSE** All ordinances or resolutions or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

**SECTION 4:            EFFECTIVE DATE** This Ordinance shall be in effect from and after its passage and publication according to law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY OF SHEBOYGAN COMMON COUNCIL

Presiding Officer

Attest

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Ryan Sorenson, Mayor, City of  
Sheboygan

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Meredith DeBruin, City Clerk, City of  
Sheboygan