

ORDINANCE BILL NO. \_\_ FOR 2021

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**SWEET HOME ORDINANCE REGULATING THE KEEPING OF HONEY BEES**

WHEREAS, the City of Sweet Home recognizes the importance of bees and urban beekeeping to agriculture, gardening, and the natural environment; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sweet Home desires to protect the interests of both beekeepers and other residents.

NOW THEREFORE,

The City of Sweet Home does Ordain as follows:

Section 1. Sweet Home Municipal Code § 6.04.020(L) is amended to read as follows:

L. Honey Bees:

1. ~~There must be one-quarter of an acre that is exclusively set aside for each hive of bees~~ A maximum of five (5) hives may be kept per property or lot; and
2. ~~The overall location at which the bees are residing has at minimum one-half of an acre~~ Anyone keeping five hives must register their hives with the Oregon Department of Agriculture; and
3. Hives must be kept in a side or rear yard at least ~~50~~ 10 feet from property lines, unless a fence, wall, or dense vegetation at least six feet in height and extending at least ten feet beyond the hive(s) in each direction separates them from neighboring properties.
4. Bees must have access to a constant source of water within 15 feet of each hive at all times during the months of March through October.
5. Hives must be well maintained so as not to create a nuisance.
6. Any resident or property owner keeping bees on their property must notify all neighbors within 50 feet of the hive(s).

Passed by the Council and approved by the Mayor this \_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Manager – Ex Officio City Recorder

