

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH CONNELLSVILLE  
FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

**ORD. NO. 316**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH CONNELLSVILLE,  
FAYETTE COUNTY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
REGULATING THE POSSESSION AND RAISING OF DOMESTICATED  
FARM BIRDS**

**WHEREAS**, many citizens in South Connellsville Borough (the "Borough") are desirous to own and keep domesticated farm birds on property within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Borough;

**WHEREAS**, Borough Council is desirous to accommodate the numerous citizens who wish to keep such animals on their property;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED**, and it is hereby enacted by the Borough Council for the Borough of South Connellsville, Fayette County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as follows:

Domesticated Farm Bird (DFB) Ordinance

Section 101. Definitions.

- A. Domesticated Farm Bird (DFB): For the purpose of this ordinance, DFB shall be defined as chickens, guinea fowl, geese, ducks, quail, turkey, emus, peacocks, swans, pheasant, partridges, pigeons, and ostrich.

Section 102. DFB Being Kept at 1-Family Dwellings. The keeping of chickens at 1-family dwellings is permitted provided all of the following conditions are met:

- A. The maximum number of DFBs allowed is ten (10) per lot, regardless of the number of dwellings located on that lot, provided that the lot is less than five (5) acres.
- B. No person shall keep emu or ostrich on any track of land less than five (5) acres.
- C. No person shall keep a rooster of any species in the Borough of South Connellsville on a track of land of less than five (5) acres in size.
- D. Persons that keep DFBs on tracks of land larger than five (5) acres are not bound by a maximum number of DFBs, but must maintain the coop requirements adjusted to the size of the flock.
- E. All DFBs shall be housed in a roofed coop that is stationary, secure and enclosed in a way that contains the DFBs.
- F. The coop shall not be within 30 feet of any primary building on an adjacent lot.
- G. The minimum coop size shall be three (3) square feet per DFB; the maximum overall coop size shall not exceed 30 square feet.

- H. An outside run is permitted but must be attached to the coop. It should not be larger than 8 feet by 8 feet. It must be fully enclosed and be set up in a manner to prevent the intrusion of predators and rodents.
- I. Eggs produced are not permitted to be sold within the Borough. The eggs are permitted to be used as a tool for bartering for other goods or services.
- J. DFBs are not permitted to be housed inside primary dwellings.
- K. Residents must submit a permit request to the Borough of South Connellsville along with a non-refundable payment of \$50. Borough Counsel will vote on the applications at the next regular meeting. Factors such as a history of negative code violations or complaints from neighbors will affect the approval of the application. The Borough Counsel has the final decision.

Section 103. Unlawful to Allow DFBs to Run at Large. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any DFBs to allow the same to run at large upon any of the common thoroughfares, sidewalks, passageways, play areas, parks, streets, alleys, or public highways or any place where people congregate or walk, or upon any public or private property without an approved coop or run shall be deemed "at large."

Section 104. Sanitation Requirements for Housing DFBs. All owners of DFBs within the limits of the Borough of South Connellsville are hereby required to house the same at all times under sanitary conditions so that keeping of DFBs shall not become either a public or private nuisance. The following provisions apply:

- A. All avian feces accumulated on private property shall be removed by using the approved sanitary method of double bagging and placing said bag in the trash for collection.
- B. Collection of avian feces for use in composting is prohibited in the limits of the Borough of South Connellsville.
- C. Avian feces on private property shall not be allowed to accumulate to the degree that it becomes a public health nuisance or hazard. In cases where chicken feces do accumulate on private property, Borough Code Enforcement will conduct an investigation, after which the accumulation may be declared a public health hazard or nuisance and the owner shall be ordered to remove and dispose of the accumulated feces in the manner outlined in Section 104A. The order to remove such accumulated feces shall be given personally to the owner or shall be sent by registered mail and the owner will be given a period of 48 hours from the date and time of receipt of the order to clean the property and remove the accumulated feces.

Section 105. No person shall slaughter any DFB within the Borough of South Connellsville, unless designated as a meat processing entity by the State of Pennsylvania.

Section 105. Proper Storage of Feed. All feed, water and other items associated with the keeping of DFBs shall be protected in a way that prevents infestation by rats, mice or other rodents or vectors. Failure to keep all feed, water, and other items associated with the keeping of DFBs in a clean sanitary condition constitutes a violation of this ordinance.

Section 106. Penalty for Violation of Provisions on DFBs.

- A. The owner or owners of any DFB(S) kept within the limits of the Borough of South Connellsville violating any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction before the District Magistrate, and be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than \$100.00 and not more than \$600.00 and the costs of prosecution at the discretion of the said Magistrate and, in the default of payment of such fines and costs, shall be committed to the County Jail for not more than five (5) days.
- B. The owner of the DFBs will also forfeit their right to keep DFBs within the limits of the Borough of South Connellsville.

**ORDAINED AND ENACTED** into an Ordinance of the Borough of South Connellsville on this 13 day of July, 2020, by the Council for the Borough of South Connellsville.

**ATTEST:**

**BOROUGH OF SOUTH  
CONNELLSVILLE**

Kelly Addis  
Kelly Addis,  
Borough Secretary

George Jay  
George Jay,  
President, Borough Council

**EXAMINED and APPROVED** this 13 day of July, 2020.

Jerry Reagan  
Jerry Reagan,  
Mayor