

**ORDINANCE NO. O2024x06**  
**TOWN OF BELVIDERE**  
**WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**  
**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 163 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF BELVIDERE ENTITLED “ANIMALS”**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Belvidere Town Council that Chapter 163 of the Code of the Town of Belvidere is hereby amended and revised to repeal and replace Article I entitled “Fowl”, with a new Article I entitled “Keeping of Chickens and Other Poultry” as follows:

**Chapter 163**  
**Animals**

**Section I.**

**Article I**  
**Keeping of Chickens and Other Poultry**

§163-1. On properties other than those devoted to agricultural or horticultural use and eligible for farmland assessment, the following requirements shall be met.

- A. The keeping of chickens and other poultry as defined in the Department of Agriculture Regulations N.J.A.C. 2:8-2.1, et seq. Shall be prohibited on multi-unit properties, including any property in common ownership as part of a homeowners’ association or owned or maintained by a management company or landlord.
- B. A maximum of six (6) chickens or poultry may be kept on any one property.
- C. Rooster shall be prohibited.
- D. Chickens and other poultry shall be provided an enclosure which is covered, ventilated and predator/rodent resistant. Said enclosure shall provide a minimum of four (4) square feet per bird when outdoor space of equal or greater space is provided or ten (10) square feet per bird where outdoor space of equal or greater space is not provided. Enclosures shall be located within side and rear yards only.
- E. Chickens and other poultry and their enclosure shall be contained within an area completely enclosed by fencing a minimum of four (4) feet in height. Chickens and poultry shall not be permitted to roam freely outside of fenced areas.
- F. The enclosure and any fenced run shall be well drained so that there is no accumulation of moisture. The floors and walls of the enclosure shall be kept in a clean and sanitary condition, with all droppings collected at least weekly. Animal solid waste shall be kept in a covered and secured container until composted, applied as fertilizer or transported off-premises.
- G. All enclosures shall be a minimum of ten (10) feet from a side or rear lot line.

**Section II.** Severability. Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such provision(s) shall be deemed severable and the remaining portions of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

**Section III.** Repealer. All ordinances or parts of ordinances or resolutions that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

**Section IV.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage and publication as required by law.

#### NOTICE

The foregoing ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the Belvidere Town Council held on April 8, 2024 and was read for the first time. This ordinance will be further considered for final adoption by the Belvidere Town Council at a meeting to be held on May 13, 2024 at Belvidere Town Hall, 691 Water St., Belvidere at 7:00 PM or at any time and place to which said meeting may be adjourned. All interested persons will be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance at that time. Any member of the general public can obtain a copy of said ordinance at no cost at the Municipal Clerk's Office, 691 Water St., Belvidere, Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

Teresa A. Yeisley, RMC/CPM  
Municipal Clerk/Administrator