

**CLEAR HILLS COUNTY  
BYLAW NO. 257-20**

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**A BYLAW OF CLEAR HILLS COUNTY, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, TO REGULATE  
THE KEEPING OF POULTRY OF CLEAR HILLS COUNTY:**

WHEREAS Pursuant to Section 7 of the *Municipal Government Act*, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter M-26, the Council of a municipality may pass bylaws for municipal purposes respecting:

- (a) the safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property; and
- (b) wild and domestic animals and activities in relation to them; and

WHEREAS Pursuant to Section 8 of the *Municipal Government Act*, R.S.A. 2000, c. M-26 the Council of a municipality may, in a bylaw, regulate or prohibit and to provide a system of licenses, permits and approvals;

WHEREAS Council deems it necessary to regulate the keeping of poultry within the County.

NOW

THEREFORE The Municipal Council of Clear Hills County, in the Province of Alberta, in Council duly assembled, enacts as follows:

**SHORT TITLE**

1. This Bylaw may be known as the "Poultry Bylaw"

**DEFINITIONS**

2. For the purposes of this bylaw:

- (a) "ABATTOIR" means a facility where animals are slaughtered for consumption as food for humans;
- (b) "DEVELOPMENT OFFICER" means a person(s) appointed as a Development Officer by the Council of Clear Hills County;
- (c) "COOP" means a fully enclosed proof structure and attached to an Outdoor Enclosure used for keeping of hens;
- (d) "HEN" means a domesticated female chicken;
- (e) "LAND USE BYLAW" means the Clear Hills County Land Use Bylaw;
- (f) "OUTDOOR ENCLOSURE" means a securely enclosed, roofed outdoor area attached to and forming part of a coop, having a bare earth or vegetated floor for chickens to roam;
- (g) "ROOSTER" means a domesticated male chicken;

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**REGULATIONS**

3. In a land use district where keeping of poultry is a discretionary use within the Land Use Bylaw, a person shall:
  - (a) be allowed to keep no more than six (6) hens in a single property.
  - (b) not be allowed to keep or raise a rooster.
4. The keeping of poultry will only be allowed for personal use. Any sale of eggs, meat and manure from the poultry is prohibited.
5. The keeping of poultry shall not be permitted where there are no dwelling units within the property.
6. The owner(s) of the hens must reside on the property where the hens will be kept.
7. Hens must be secured within a coop and outdoor enclosure at all times.
8. The coop and the outdoor enclosure for the keeping of poultry must adhere to the following regulations:
  - (a) The coop and outdoor enclosure will require a development permit prior to their erection. As part of the development permit application, applicants must also provide:
    - i. a manure disposal plan;
    - ii. the number and breed(s) of hen; and
    - iii. a process of notification for neighboring properties, including a letter to inform.
  - (b) The coop and outdoor enclosure can only be located within the rear yard of the property.
  - (c) The setback requirements for a coop and outdoor enclosure shall follow the same requirements for an accessory building as per the County's Land Use Bylaw.
  - (d) The coop must:
    - i. have an interior floor area of 0.37 m<sup>2</sup> (or 4 ft<sup>2</sup>) per hen.
    - ii. include at least one (1) nesting box and one (1) perch at least 15 cm (or 6 in.) long per hen.
    - iii. have an outdoor enclosure with an area of 0.92m<sup>2</sup> (or 10ft<sup>2</sup>) per hen.
    - iv. have feed and water containers, which are fully enclosed and airtight.
    - v. have adequate ventilation.
    - vi. be built to be weatherproof and predator proof.
    - vii. be kept in good and sanitary condition at all times.
  - (e) The coop and outdoor enclosure shall be cleaned annually.

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9. The disposal or slaughter of hens shall be prohibited within a residential property, owners will be required to deliver the poultry to a farm, abattoir or veterinary clinic for proper disposal or slaughter.
10. Within thirty (30) days of ownership of the poultry, the applicant must apply for a provincial Premises Identification (PID) number and provide the PID to the County's Development Officer. Failure to provide the PID to the County will result in the revocation of the development permit associated with the keeping of poultry and will be subject to fines and penalties within the County's Land Use Bylaw.
11. Any owner failing to mitigate nuisance resulting from the keeping of poultry will be subject to provisions under the County's Untidy and Unsightly Premises Bylaw.
12. If any portion of this bylaw is declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, then the invalid portion shall be severed.
13. That this bylaw shall take force and effect on the date of its final passage.

First Reading given on the 8 day of September, 2020.

Second Reading given on the 13 day of October, 2020.

Third Reading and Assent given on the 13 day of October, 2020.

  
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Miron Croy, Reeve

  
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Allan Rowe, Chief Administrative Officer