

CHAPTER 6

PIGS AND PIGGERIES

- 6 **Authority** - Board of Health of the Town of Norton, acting under the authority MGL Chapter 111 Sections 31, 122, 143, and 155 and amendments and additions thereto, in the interest of and for the preservation of the public health, and the environment adopts the following regulations for the control and keeping of swine (pigs).
- 6.1. **Definition** The Board of Health defines a "pig" as any of various stout bodied, short legged, hooved, omnivorous mammals of the family *Suidae*. To include swine, boars, hogs, and miniature pot-bellied pigs. A "piggery" is one or more pig 10 weeks of age or older, owned or kept by a person on a single premise, regardless of the purpose for with they are maintained.
- 6.2. **License** No individual or individuals, partnership, company or corporation shall keep more than one pig or swine within the limits of the Town without first obtaining a license from the Norton Board of Health. No license shall be issued until the applicant verifies the property is zoned for this use. All such licenses shall expire on December 31st of each year. The Board of Health for just cause may revoke any license at any time.
- 6.3. **Transportation** Every holder of a license to keep swine shall obtain a license to transport garbage, offal, or other offensive substances on the streets of Norton in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 111 section 31A, and no such materials shall be so transported without such a license. All garbage and other offensive materials shall be transported only in water tight containers and in a manner which prevents spillage and odors. The fee for the license is in Appendix A. All licenses shall expire on December 31st. The Board of Health for just cause may revoke any license at any time.
- 6.4. **Siting** All piggeries shall be suitably isolated and maintained in such a manner that no nuisance shall be created. Areas in which pigs are confined shall conform to the dimensional setback requirements of the following table:

| No. Of Pigs | Minimum Front Setback from Street, feet | Minimum Side Setback from Lot Line, feet | Minimum Rear Setback from Lot Line, feet |
|-------------|---|--|--|
| 1 to 4 | 150 | 100 | 100 |
| 4 to 10 | 250 | 150 | 150 |
| 11 or more | 500 | 200 | 200 |

- i. The owner shall submit a site plan prepared by a registered Massachusetts land surveyor with a scale no less than 1 inch equals 40 feet and a management plan to the Board of Health with the permit application. The site plan shall identify the location of the housing and grazing area(s) for the pigs, major topographical features including the location of all streams, drains, wetlands, known or proposed water supply, and buildings located within 350 feet of the property, and area(s) of manure storage and spreading. A Certified Abutters List of property owners within 300 feet of the property where the animals will be kept shall be included with the application. The management plan shall include a manure management plan indicating the method of manure storage and spreading and management of any runoff from these activities and a proposed odor control plan.

6.5 **Manure** Manure shall not be allowed to accumulate and create a nuisance. Manure and uneaten garbage shall be regularly removed from pens and shall be immediately removed from the premises or must be so kept that it will not constitute a nuisance and so that the pigs will not have access to it. Manure shall not be stored within 150 feet of a private water supply wells or 500 feet of a public water supply well or within 150 feet from the high water mark of any source of drinking water supply or tributary thereof. Manure shall not be stored within 150 of a wetland. The submittal shall also include a copy of the assessors' maps outlining the property and abutting properties within 1000 feet.

6.6 **Drainage** Drainage from corrals and stables shall be directed to a pretreatment area designed by a Registered Professional Engineer licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in the following cases:

- i. When located within 200 feet of a wetland or watercourse.
- ii. When the Board determines it is necessary to protect the public and environmental health.

6.7 **Housing** Buildings shall be properly ventilated of substantial construction, well lighted, and so designed that accumulations of offensive material can be readily removed shall be provided. Walls shall be suitably treated with whitewash, paint or other materials approved by the Board to prevent absorption of odors and waste. For indoor pens, watertight troughs of cement or metal maintained in good repair shall be provided for feeding purposes, and these troughs shall be cleaned daily. All buildings used for the housing of swine shall be maintained in a clean and satisfactory condition. Water shall be made freely available to all animals. It shall be maintained fresh, clean, and readily accessible, both indoors and outdoors.

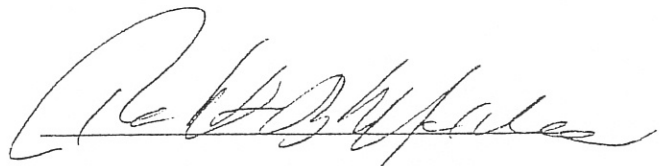
- 6.8 **Inspections** All piggeries shall be inspected by a representative of the Board of Health at least twice per year or upon receipt of any complaint. The inspector will make such recommendations to the owner as are necessary to maintain the piggery in proper condition.
- 6.9 **VIOLATIONS** - Any person found in violation of these regulations shall be fined, upon conviction, not more than \$1,000 per violation. Each day of noncompliance shall constitute a separate and new offense. Any person who is issued a permit or license by the Board and is found to be in violation of these or any other applicable regulation, may be subject to the immediate suspension or revocation of said permit or license. The Regulation may be enforced by the use of Non-Criminal Citations as put forth in Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, § 21D.

Board of Health Rules and Regulations

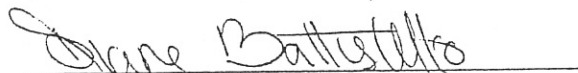
Signature Page: Chapter 6



Steven H. Corr, P.E, Chairman



Robert B. Medeiros, Vice-Chairman



Diane Battistello, Clerk

08/12/2013

Date