

**CITY OF WHITEHALL  
MUSKEGON COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
ORDINANCE NO. 23-02**

An ordinance to amend Chapter 51: ANIMALS

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL HEREBY ORDAINS:

That Ordinance §51.10 shall be added as follows;

**§51.10        DEER CONTROL**

**(A)        FEEDING**

No person shall intentionally feed; cause to be fed; bait; provide for or make available food or other substances for the consumption by deer within the City. This section shall not apply to naturally growing vegetation or their seed; planted vegetation growing in yards or flower beds for landscaping; planted vegetation for human consumption; bird seed, grain, or corn if contained in an elevated bird feeder and not purposely deposited on the ground or in a feeder trough; or public employees acting within the scope of their authority for purposes of health, safety, or wildlife management.

**(B)        HUNTING**

Limited and controlled bow, archery, or cross-bow hunting during bow hunting season as designated by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), or any subsequent controlling State agency, is allowed within the City for purposes of limiting the urban deer population that may cause a threat to vehicular traffic, damage landscaping, impact the health and regeneration of native vegetation, decrease the overall health of the deer population, and increase the risks of disease transmission.

**(C)        ELIGIBLE PROPERTY**

Owners of private property may apply annually to the City for designation as an eligible property for purposes of hunting deer in accordance with this ordinance. The City Council, in its sole discretion, may approve or deny an application. Eligible property shall be located within the City and comprise no less than six contiguous acres. Adjacent landowners may jointly apply for designation as eligible property. The City Council reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to revoke any property as eligible property. The City Council may establish fees for eligible property applications.

**(D)        HUNTERS**

Licensed bow, archery, or cross-bow hunters meeting the requirements established by the DNR may apply annually to the City for a permit to hunt deer on approved eligible properties. The application shall include consent from the eligible property owner. Hunting may not occur within 150 feet of any building, public street, or the property lines of the eligible property. All shots must be taken from a temporary elevated stand and shot no further than 150 feet. The City Council reserves the

right, in its sole discretion, to revoke any hunting permits. The City Council may establish fees for hunting permits.

This Ordinance is to become effective ten (10) days after publication.

Ayes: Holmstrom, Mullally, Connell, Sikkenga, Heidelberg, Brown, and Salter

Nays: None

Absent: None

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned, being the duly qualified Clerk of the City of Whitehall, Muskegon County, Michigan, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of an ordinance adopted by the City Council of the City of Whitehall, at a regular meeting of the City Council on the 27th day of June, 2023, at which meeting a quorum was present and remained throughout, and that the meeting was conducted and public notice was given pursuant to and in full compliance with Act No. 267, Public Acts of Michigan of 1976, as amended, and that minutes were kept and will be or have been made available as required thereby.

Date: July 26, 2023



Brenda Bourdon  
City Clerk

Adopted: July 25, 2023

Published: August 6, 2023

Effective: August 16, 2023