GENERAL ORDINANCE AMENDING §91.036 OF CHAPTER 91 ANIMAL CONTROL, OF THE CITY OF FORT WAYNE CODE OF ORDINANCES. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF WAYNE, INDIANA, CODE OF ORDINANCES: SECTION 1. That §91.036 of Chapter 91: ANIMAL CONTROL City of Fort Wayne, Indiana Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as for Section 1. Ownership, possession, or maintenance of a wild animal indigenous to of Indiana is prohibited. No other wild or exotic animal shall be	1	BILL NO. G-15-07-01
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BILL NO. G-15-07-01

GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. G-

GENERAL ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 91.036 OF CHAPTER 91 ANIMAL CONTROL, OF THE CITY OF FORT WAYNE CODE OF ORDINANCES.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF FORT WAYNE, INDIANA, CODE OF ORDINANCES:

SECTION 1. That Section 91.036 of Chapter 91: ANIMAL CONTROL, of the City of Fort Wayne, Indiana Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as follows

■§ 91.036 WILD OR EXOTIC ANIMALS.

Ownership, possession, or maintenance of a wild animal indigenous to the state of Indiana is prohibited. No other wild or exotic animal shall be owned, possessed, or maintained within the city without all required federal and state permits.

No Wild or Exotic Animal shall be owned, kept or maintained within the City without all required federal and state Permits.



Animal Care & Control

July 7, 2015

To: Members of Common Council

From: Belinda Lewis, Director

Animal Care and Control

Subject: City Ordinance Wildlife Possession Amendment

The DNR recently identified an inability to regulate wildlife in Indiana due to court action removing their authority to do so. While we currently prohibit dangerous exotic wildlife by ordinance, our local indigenous wildlife are not specifically addressed in the ordinance as they were previously covered by the DNR regulatory system. Those animals (raccoons, foxes, skunks, coyotes, deer, squirrels, rabbits, etc.) have historically presented a much more frequent public health, safety, or animal welfare issue due to their volume and availability in our area.

This amendment provides the city the necessary tools to intervene when animals have been inappropriately removed from the wild and are being held in captivity. The need to attend to this quickly is the unanticipated regulatory "no man's land" that was created for wildlife in our state with this ruling. Our most common safety risk in Fort Wayne involves human bite exposures of rabies carrier wild animals that require testing.

The DNR will continue to issue permits to trained Wildlife Rehabilitators and Nuisance Wildlife Control Operators so those resources will remain available to our agency as well as private citizens who need their assistance.

Thank you for your consideration, Belinda Lewis