

*Format note---this proposed ordinance is prepared in "legislative format": new verbiage proposed to be added is shown in bold type; any existing verbiage proposed to be deleted is shown lined-through.*

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF RUTLAND**

**BARRY COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2025-198 (PROPOSED)**

**ADOPTED:**

**EFFECTIVE:**

An Ordinance to amend §220-5-3.H. of Chapter 220 of the Rutland Charter Township Code pertaining to the keeping of livestock on a non-commercial basis in the CR Country Residential District.

**THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF RUTLAND**

**BARRY COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

**ORDAINS:**

**SECTION 1**

**AMENDMENT OF §220-5-3.H. OF RUTLAND CHARTER TOWNSHIP CODE  
PERTAINING TO KEEPING OF LIVESTOCK IN CR COUNTRY RESIDENTIAL  
DISTRICT**

§220-5-3.H. of the Rutland Charter Township Code, pertaining to the keeping of livestock on a non-commercial basis in the CR Country Residential District, is amended to read as follows:

H. Keeping of livestock on a non-commercial basis is allowable accessory to an existing dwelling on the premises, subject to all applicable provisions of this Chapter, including the generally applicable special land use approval standards specified in §220-20-3., and also the following density, setback, and other requirements:

1. The minimum lot area for the keeping of any such ~~animals~~ **livestock** is three acres. **The Planning Commission may approve a lot area of less than three acres but at least one acre for the keeping of a maximum of twelve (12) hens and chickens, pursuant to the otherwise applicable approval standards and requirements.**

2. There shall be at least two acres of lot area per animal unit kept on the premises. For purposes of this provision, only, the number of animals per animal unit shall be determined as follows:
  - A. slaughter and feeder cattle: one animal equals 1.00 animal unit.
  - B. mature dairy cattle: one animal equals 1.42 animal units.
  - C. horses: one animal equals 1.00 animal unit.
  - D. swine (weighing over 55 lbs.): one animal equals 0.40 animal unit.
  - E. sheep and lambs: one animal equals 0.10 animal unit.
  - F. laying hens or broiler chickens: one animal equals 0.01 animal unit.
  - G. turkeys: one animal equals 0.018 animal unit.
  - H. Any other types or sizes of livestock not listed here are to be calculated as one thousand pounds live weight equals **1.00** animal unit.
3. All areas in which the ~~animals~~ **livestock** are confined shall be located at least 100 ft from all existing dwellings on adjacent properties.
4. All areas in which the ~~animals~~ **livestock** are confined shall be located at least 50 ft from any wellhead, ~~and shall not include~~**ing** any drain field.
5. ~~Roosters are prohibited~~ **Keeping of Chickens.**
  - A. Roosters are prohibited.
  - B. ~~Otherwise permissible chicken shall at all time be confined to a chicken coop or otherwise enclosed structure and not allowed to free range.~~ **Chickens must be confined to a chicken coop or enclosed structure. An outside, completely enclosed run attached to the coop may be provided.**
  - C. **All feed and other items associated with the keeping of chickens likely to attract rats, mice, or other rodents or vermin shall be secured and protected in sealed containers.**

## **SECTION 2**

### **REPEAL AND EFFECTIVE DATE**

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed. This Ordinance shall become effective on the eighth day after publication or such later date as may be required by law.

Robin Hawthorne, Clerk  
Charter Township of Rutland