



July 25, 2022

Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council
City of Warrensburg, Missouri

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

SUBJECT: Ordinance amending Article IV of Chapter 28, Wildlife Management, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Warrensburg

BACKGROUND:

Over the years, the City has explored the possibility of managed deer hunts within city limits. The last time this was explored was in 2007. At that time, Missouri Department of Conservation determined a managed hunt was appropriate based on the deer population surveys; however, the city did not move forward with a program. The city is again discussing a program to manage the urban deer population.

City Council adopted Article IV of Chapter 28 Wildlife Management authorizing managed deer hunts within city limits.

ISSUES:

At the time of adoption, it was the intention of staff to limit hunting within 150 feet or 50 yards of streets of any street or public right-of-way or any dwelling or other structure. Through multiple iterations, the final ordinance adopted combined the two measures to 150 yards. Requiring that distance is not necessary with archery equipment and limits designated hunting areas within the city.

Staff recommends amending Section 28-75(c)5 as shown below:

5. No hunting within one hundred fifty (150) feet of any street or public right-of-way or any dwelling or other structure.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

Focus II: Community pride and interaction

RECOMMENDATION:

Pass ordinances.

Sincerely,

Danielle Dulin
City Manager

Attachments: Ordinance amending Article IV of Chapter 28

ORDINANCE NO. _____

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE IV OF CHAPTER 28, WILDLIFE
MANAGEMENT, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF
WARRENSBURG**

WHEREAS, management of urban deer is essential to maintaining the health of those populations, as well as maintaining biodiversity and protecting the vitality of natural ecosystems within the City, and

WHEREAS, overpopulation of deer within the City leads to hazardous interactions between deer and motorists, destruction of property by deer seeking food sources when naturally occurring ones have been over-utilized, and the threat of transmission of zoonotic diseases, all of which are public health and welfare concerns,

WHEREAS, City Council adopting Ordinance No. 5739 adding Article IV or Chapter 28, Wildlife Management, to the City of Warrensburg Code of Ordinances;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WARRENSBURG, MISSOURI AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Article IV of Chapter 28 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 28-75, Authorized and Managed Deer Hunts, of the code of ordinances of the city.

- (a) As used in this section, the following words shall have the following definitions.
1. *Projectile archery method* shall mean any bow or crossbow that projects by means of a chord, an arrow not laced with any substance.
 2. *Public property* shall refer to real property of the City of Warrensburg, University of Central Missouri, or other public entity five (5) acres or greater in size, when such property has been designated by the respective governmental entity as eligible under this Section.
- (b) City Council may when it is deemed necessary, authorize managed deer hunts. Such hunts shall be conducted under the following conditions:
1. All deer hunters shall follow all State Wildlife code established by the Missouri Department of Conservation and the rules established from year to year by the City Manager or their designee to govern administration of deer hunting and address safety of participants and the public.
 2. City Council shall by resolution specifically authorize each managed hunt, setting forth dates and public property where the hunt is to be conducted. If the hunt is to be conducted on public property not owned by the City, the respective governmental entity shall submit in writing to the City Manager or

their designee specific dates and times and area of the hunt and shall comply with the rules as adopted under subsection (1).

3. Notice of the dates and areas of each hunt shall be posted prior to the hunt; such notice shall be maintained through the final day of the hunt. Notice shall be made in written form and posted at City Hall and at the area(s) of the hunt through posting of signs at the entrance to the area and upon the boundaries. Other governmental entities managing hunts shall also give notice by notices posted on its property, specifically at the area(s) of the hunt.

(c) Standards for any managed deer hunt hereunder shall be as follows, in addition to standards and rules set by the City Manager or their designee under this section:

1. Legal methods to harvest deer include bow or crossbow only.
2. All hunters shall possess a valid license from the state of Missouri to hunt deer.
3. All hunters must provide proof of completion of Hunter Education approved by Missouri Department of Conservation.
4. Each approved hunter shall always carry an authorization card issued by the respective governmental entity of whose public property they are hunting.
5. No hunting within one hundred fifty (150) feet of any street or public right-of-way or any dwelling or other structure.
6. No tracking or recovering a deer is to take place on private property without permission of the property owner.
7. All state laws and regulations and any additional regulations and rules imposed by the governmental entity managing the hunt will be obeyed.
8. Hunting shall be allowed only in areas approved by the relevant public agency and only during dates designated by that agency and authorized by state law and regulation.

Section 2. It is intended the provisions of Section 1 shall be incorporated into the Code of the City of Warrensburg.

Section 3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

Passed in open session this ____ day of September 2022.

James Kushner, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jodi Schneider, City Clerk