

**WARNING OF BUDGET MEETING
TOWN OF MORRIS
Thursday, June 2, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.**

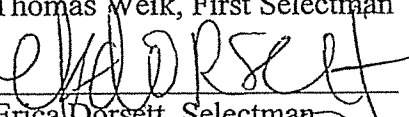
The electors of the Town of Morris and those persons eligible to vote in Town Meetings in said Town, are hereby warned and notified to meet in the Morris Community Hall, 3 East Street, Morris, Connecticut on Thursday, June 2, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. for the Annual Budget Meeting for the following purposes:

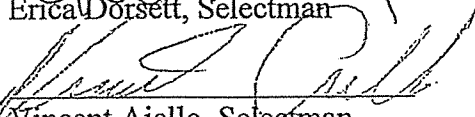
1. To consider and act upon the Town Budget in the total amount of \$9,338,740 as recommended by the Board of Finance for the Fiscal Year commencing July 1, 2022.
2. To take such action as the voters deem best with respect to the adoption of an ordinance entitled "Ordinance Prohibiting the Baiting of Wildlife." A copy of said ordinance is available for inspection at the office of the Morris Town Clerk, 3 East Street, Morris, CT.

(Copies of the town budget are available in the Town Clerk's Office and online at the Town's website at www.townofmorrisct.com)

Morris, Connecticut this 20th day of May, 2022.


Thomas Weik, First Selectman


Erica Dorsett, Selectman


Vincent Aiello, Selectman


**RETURN NOTICE
TOWN OF MORRIS
OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN**

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

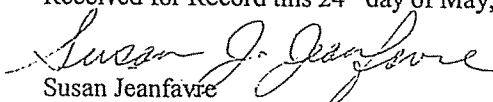
COUNTY OF LITCHFIELD

) ss: Morris

THIS IS TO CERTIFY in compliance with CGS revised 2002, ss 7-3 and 7-4 that I the undersigned First Selectman of the Town of Morris, Have posted upon the sign post of this Town, and such other places designated by this Town, a signed copy of the foregoing Warning of Budget Meeting; that I have caused the same to be published in the Republican American, a newspaper having a circulation in this Town; that I have filed a duplicate copy of the same with the Town Clerk for proper recording; and that these acts were done, or caused to be done, by me at least five (5) days prior to the date set in the Warning for the holding of the Town Meeting.


Tom Weik, First Selectman

Received for Record this 24th day of May, 2022.


Susan Jeanfave
Assistant Town Clerk

Town of Morris, Connecticut
Special Town Meeting
June 2, 2022

Ordinance Prohibiting the Baiting of Wildlife

Section 1. Authority

This ordinance is made pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 7-148(c)(7)(D), § 7-148(c)(7)(E), and § 7-148(c)(7)(H)(xi), which authorize a municipality to regulate the going at large of animals in public places, to prevent cruelty to animals, to regulate and prohibit the keeping of wild or domestic animals within municipal limits, to prevent public nuisances and all things detrimental to the public safety, and to provide for the health of the inhabitants of the municipality and to do all things necessary or desirable to secure and promote the public health.

Section 2. Amendment of Morris Code of Ordinances

The Morris Code of Ordinances, Chapter 93, “Animals” is hereby amended through the addition of new section 93.02, as follows:

“CHAPTER 93: ANIMALS

§ 93.02 INTENTIONAL BAITING OF WILDLIFE

(A) Purpose and Authority:

Whereas the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental protection has found that an important contributing factor to wildlife nuisances, including “problem” bears, is the presence of easily-accessible food sources near homes and businesses;

Therefore, the purpose of this ordinance is to prohibit the intentional feeding or baiting of wildlife in the town of Morris so as to protect public health, safety and welfare, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 7-148(c)(7)(D), § 7-148(c)(7)(E), and § 7-148(c)(7)(H)(xi), and to prescribe penalties for violations hereof.

(B) Definitions:

For the purpose of this ordinance, the following terms, phrases, words and their derivations shall have the meanings stated herein unless their use in the text of this Chapter clearly demonstrates a different meaning.

(1) Feed: to give, place, expose, deposit, distribute or scatter any edible material with the express intention of feeding attracting or enticing wildlife. Feeding does not include the baiting in the legal taking of fish and/or game.

(2) Authorized Enforcement Officer: all sworn personnel of the CT State Police, all

enforcement personnel of the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and the Town of Morris Animal Control Officers.

(3) Person: any individual, corporation, a partnership, a non-profit, a trust, an unincorporated organization, business organization of any kind or other group or organization.

(4) Wildlife: includes, but is not limited to non-domestic animals, such as, bears, deer, coyotes, bobcats, and fishers, that due to intentional baiting have been determined to be a nuisance or threat to public health, safety and welfare.

(5) Taking: means shooting, pursuing, hunting, capturing, trapping, snaring, or any act of assistance to any other person in taking or attempting to take such wildlife whether or not such act results in the capture of any such wildlife.

(C) Prohibited Activity:

The following is prohibited activity:

(1) Intentional feeding, giving, placing, exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering any edible material, or attractant including storing pet food, birdseed, garbage or other substance with the intention of baiting, attracting or enticing wildlife.

(2) Intentional attracting of wildlife to a specific location for the purpose of the enhancement of hunter harvest, trapping or viewing opportunity.

(3) If a person is unintentionally attracting wildlife and is notified in writing by the Morris Animal Control Officer to cease activities that are attracting and habituating wildlife, such unintentional feeding will thereafter be classified as intentional attracting.

(4) Feeding Birds Out-Of-Season: Bird feeders shall not be used from April 1 through November 30.

(D) Enforcement

This ordinance shall be enforced by the Authorized Enforcement Officer(s), meaning the Morris Animal Control Officer, all sworn personnel of the Connecticut State Police, and all enforcement personnel of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, as allowed by statute. A first violation shall result in a written warning by the Morris Animal Control Officer. Subsequent violation(s) shall result in a fine issued by the Animal Control Officer.

(E) Exemptions:

(1) This ordinance does not apply to any person with a valid permit issued by the State of Connecticut, Department of Environmental Protection.

(2) Wildlife Rehabilitation: Any person providing care to wildlife for the purpose of an animal's rehabilitation due to illness or injury, as part of a recognized for-profit or non-profit entity providing for such care of wildlife.

(3) Composting: Composting that is properly secured but unintentionally leads to the feeding of wildlife is excluded.

(4) Feeding birds in-season: Bird feeders may be used from December 1 through March 31.

(F) Violations and Penalties:

Whenever the Morris Animal Control Officer determines that a person has violated this ordinance for the first offense, the Animal Control Officer shall issue a written warning to the violator. Whenever the Animal Control Officer determines that a person has violated this ordinance for a second time, the Animal Control Officer is authorized to issue a fine to the violator in the amount of \$100 for such second offense. Whenever the Animal Control Officer determines that a person has violated this ordinance a third or subsequent time, the Animal Control Officer is authorized to issue a fine to the violator in the amount of \$250 for such offense. Any violation continued for more than one (1) day shall constitute a separate offense for each day such violation continues. After two (2) or more violations, for the same offense or combination of offenses, of this ordinance have been cited to any person, the town may initiate a civil action in Superior Court for injunctive relief and other relief at law and in equity, to prohibit and prevent such violation or violations.

(G) Appeals:

Pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 7-152c, any person receiving a fine may appeal the determination of the authorized enforcement agency to the First Selectman, who shall appoint a Hearing Officer to hear the appeal pursuant to § 10.99(B) of the Morris Code of Ordinances. The notice of appeal must be received in writing and filed with the Town Clerk's Office within ten (10) business days from receipt of the notice of fine. The appeal shall be deemed received by the Town on the first business day following the date it is filed with and received by the Town Clerk's Office. Hearing on the appeal before the Hearing Officer shall take place within thirty (30) business days from the date of receipt of the notice of appeal. The decision of the Hearing Officer shall be final."

Section 3. Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication of a summary of its provisions in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes § 7-157(b).

Adopted by town meeting on _____, _____, 2022.

Published in the _____, on _____, _____, 2022.

Effective date: _____, _____, 2022.

Recorded in the Morris Town Records: Vol. _____, Page _____.