ORDINANCE NO. 1277

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LA VISTA, SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO AMEND THE LA VISTA MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 95.05; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES PREVIOUSLY ENACTED; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA VISTA, SARPY COUNTY, NEBRASKA:

SECTION 1. Section 95.05 of the La Vista Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

§ 95.05 PITTNG ANIMALS; DEFINITIONS; PROHIBITIONS.

(A) Definitions. For the purpose of this section, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

BEARBAITING. The pitting of any animal against a bear.

COCKFIGHTING. The pitting of a fowl against another fowl.

DOGFIGHTING. The pitting of a dog against another dog.

PITTING. Bringing animals together in combat.

(Neb. RS 28-1004)

(B) (1) No person shall knowingly:

(a) Promote, engage in or be employed at dogfighting, cockfighting, bearbaiting or pitting an animal against another;

(b) Receive money for the admission of another person to a place kept for such purpose;

(c) Own, use, train, sell or possess an animal for such purpose;

(d) Permit any act as described in this division (B)(1) to occur on any premises owned or controlled by him or her.

(2) No person shall knowingly and willingly be present at and witness as a spectator dogfighting, cockfighting, bearbaiting or the pitting of an animal against another as prohibited in division (B)(1) of this section.

(3) Any person who violates division (B)(1) or (B)(2) shall be guilty of a Class IIIA felony and the sentencing court shall make such orders and have such authority as provided by state law.(Neb. RS 28-1005, Neb. RS 28-1019) (79 Code, § 6-206)

(C) (1) No person shall knowingly or intentionally own or possess animal fighting paraphernalia with the intent to commit a violation of this section.

(2) (a) For purposes of this section, except as provided in division (C)(2)(b) of this section,

ANIMAL FIGHTING PARAPHERNALIA means equipment, products, and materials of any kind that are used, intended for use, or designed for use in the training, preparation, conditioning, or furtherance of the pitting of an animal against another as defined in division (A) of this section.

ANIMAL FIGHTING PARAPHERNALIA includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. A breaking stick, which means a device designed for insertion behind the molars of a dog for the purpose of breaking the dog's grip on another animal or object;

2. A cat mill, which means a device that rotates around a central support with one arm designed to secure a dog and one arm designed to secure a cat, rabbit, or other
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small animal beyond the grasp of the dog;

3. A treadmill, which means an exercise device consisting of an endless belt on which the animal walks or runs without changing place;

4. A fighting pit, which means a walled area designed to contain an animal fight;

5. A springpole, which means a biting surface attached to a stretchable device, suspended at a height sufficient to prevent a dog from reaching the biting surface while touching the ground;

6. A heel, which means any edged or pointed instrument designed to be attached to the leg of a fowl;

7. A boxing glove or muff, which means a fitted protective covering for the spurs of a fowl; and

8. Any other instrument commonly used in the furtherance of pitting an animal against another.

(b) ANIMAL FIGHTING PARAPHERNALIA does not include equipment, products, or materials of any kind used by a veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine and surgery in this state.

(3) Any person violating division (C)(1) of this section is guilty of a Class I misdemeanor and the sentencing court shall make such orders and have such authority as provided by state law. (Neb. RS 28-1005.01, Neb. RS 28-1019)

SECTION 2. Repeal of Conflicting Ordinances. All ordinances and parts of ordinances as previously enacted that are in conflict with this Ordinance or any part hereof are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The Mayor and City Council of the City of La Vista hereby declare that it would have passed this Ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

SECTION 4. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after passage, approval and publication in pamphlet form as provided by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 5TH DAY OF APRIL, 2016.

CITY OF LA VISTA

Douglas Kindig, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pamela A. Buethe, CMC
City Clerk

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