

5.3(a)

From: Mrs. Jaime Neeb
Sent: January 15, 2012 11:34 PM
To: Mrs. Jaime Neeb
Subject: City By-Law request

Hello City Clerk,

I have attached a letter for your review. I am asking for reconsideration in the scope of what you consider to be allowable "pets" within city limits. I look forward to your response. I thank you for taking the time to read the attachment.

Chat with ewe soon,


*Mrs. Jaime Neeb
our little flock
Gadshill, Ontario, CANADA*

*Check out **our little flock** at my website: www.ourlittleflock.com*

***our little flock** is one of Canada's largest registered miniature Babydoll sheep breeders, the oldest known purebred sheep in the world! We are qualified to export our lambs and are the first breeder in Canada of the very rare SPOTTED Babydolls!*

*Now part of **our little flock** - Micro Mini Pet Pigs! We are the premier breeder of these tiny housepets in Ontario, Canada. Our breeding pair have matured to less than 12 inches "tall" and each weigh under 35lb - full grown! Our pigs are hypo-allergenic and litter trainable - a fantastically clean and social house pet.*

We also raise miniature African Pygmy Goats, miniature donkeys, alpacas, Canadian heritage Chantecler chickens, as well as Saxony ducks. Be sure to visit the webpage for pictures of all of our sweet little pets!



our little flock

breeder of rare miniature pets

15 January 2012

Dear City Council and By-Law Enforcement,

My name is Mrs. Jaime Neeb and I live with my husband and daughter on our farm just outside of Gadshill, Ontario. I have been breeding rare, miniature Babydoll sheep since 2009. In 2010 I purchased a very small breeding pair of micro mini pet pigs. At 2 years of age, my boar Oliver is 11" tall and weighs 30lb. My female Petunia is 12" tall and currently weighs 40lb and is nursing a healthy litter of 5 piglets. I have a second female that is 1 year old in February 2012 and she remains tiny at under 10 inches high (measured floor to top of shoulder, as with all animals). My piglets are raised and sold as house pets across Ontario and to Eastern Canada. There are a few breeders out west as well.

Pigs are ranked #4 in most intelligent mammals, higher than both dogs and cats. By nature, pigs are very tidy and when free-range only soil in one area. This is why they are so easy to litter train. My pigs are litter trained, and piglets go to their forever homes at 8 weeks of age, fully litter trained. Pigs are very lovable and affectionate, and quiet and calm pets. Mini pet pigs can live to up to 12 years of age, similar to many breeds of dogs and cats.

As you may be aware, according to outdated animals by-laws, pigs are ranked as Class 1 livestock and not permitted within city limits. This is the reason I write. In areas north of our farm, townships and cities have revisited their outdated by-laws and allow mini pet pigs as house pets. I have had a client approach her city and she was told they would grant her a "temporary" exemption to allow her to own a pet pig in her home. They indicated it would be a "temporary" exemption which would allow By-Law Officers access for periodic visits to ensure her pet pig was not growing to the size of a commercial swine! Of course, she was more than obliged to comply.

Many cities are not aware that mini pet pigs exist. There are about 6 true breeders here in Canada now, which includes myself, and mini pet pigs have been in Canada for about 4 years now. There are many classes of mini pigs, some growing to 100lb. In terms of pet ownership, 100lb seems to be the average size of dogs that people are permitted to own within city limits. Rottweilers, Bull Mastiffs and Great Danes are just a few breeds that are permitted to be owned within your city limits, and which have the potential to grow much larger than 100lb.

I am writing to ask that mini pet pigs be granted status in your city as part of the allowable pets. I also ask/recommend that it be a requirement that any pig kept as a pet be required to be spayed/neutered. Quebec has recently just updated their bylaws and now allows mini pet pigs as house pets. If full status would not be granted, then perhaps you would allow temporary status for mini pet pigs as house pets within city limits, with the requirements that owners allow By-Law Officers to periodically visit and/or ownership permission be revisited if any legitimate complaints are logged against the mini pet pig owner.

I would greatly appreciate hearing back from your representatives and am more than happy to answer any questions or concerns relating to this request. I have a lot of information on my website with regards to the care and ownership of mini pet pigs. I have dedicated 7 or 8 web pages to the pigs, to provide information to people thinking about investing in one of these pet pigs. I hope you will review this information.

I hope we are able to reach a favourable result for all the little pig enthusiasts in your city.

Kind regards,

Jaime
