



XI.

Agenda Item

County of Hanover

Board Meeting: September 9, 2015

Subject: Public Hearing - Permit to Keep Vicious Animals – Nathan I. Lawhorn – 8396 McFaye Avenue

Magisterial District: Chickahominy

Summary of Agenda Item: In accordance with Hanover County Code, Chapter 4, Article III, Section 4-80, the Hanover County Board of Supervisors is required to advertise and conduct a public hearing to receive comments before issuing a permit to keep vicious animals.

Mr. Nathan Lawhorn, a resident of the Chickahominy Magisterial District, has applied for a permit to keep vicious animals (10 pythons) at his residence located at 8396 McFaye Avenue, Mechanicsville, VA 23116.

In June 2015, Hanover County Animal Control was made aware of a large snake on the property of 8396 McFaye Avenue in Mechanicsville. After verifying the information, Chief Jeffrey Parker confirmed there are ten (10) python species on the property inside the residence.

On July 1, 2015, Nathan Lawhorn filed for a wild, exotic or vicious animal permit with Hanover County Animal Control. Chief Parker conducted a home inspection to verify the confinement and living arrangements for the species. Mr. Lawhorn has paid the application fee, mailed certified letters to adjacent property owners and a sign was posted on the property advertising the public hearing.

A copy of the permit application is attached.

County Administrator's Recommended Board Motion:

Hold a public hearing for Hanover County Chapter, Article III, Section 4-80, Wild, Exotic or Vicious Animal Permit.

Describe your prior experience with this/these particular breed(s) of wild, exotic or vicious animals and/or how you obtained the knowledge necessary to care for this/these particular breed(s) according to their needs:

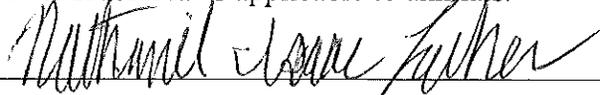
In May 2013 I picked up my first python (Burmese) from Off The Ark Exotic pets in Chester, VA off of Iron Bridge Road. She was about 3 months old and around 3 feet in length. From then I fed her every two weeks and increased interest more and more with pythons. I got my first reticulated python from Bob Clark in 2014 and immediately showed more interest more in reticulated pythons. Since then I have had 8 more reticulated pythons and gained a lot of experience in handling pythons that range from 3 feet - 17#

Have you ever applied for a permit before? NO If so, when? _____

Do you have current state and federal permits? State: _____ Federal: _____
(Please attach copies of both)

The undersigned applicant hereby certifies that the information provided in this application is true, and understands that a Wild/Exotic or Vicious Animal Permit is subject to revocation for falsification of any information on the permit application.

The undersigned further understands that: (i) this permit is not transferable and is subject to the conditions listed below; (ii) this permit authorizes the applicant to keep only the animals identified in the application at the address listed in the application; (iii) any permitted animal that dies or is sold or relocated out of the County may be replaced by an animal of the same species; (iv) any additions to the list of animals, whether as a result of breeding or acquisition of additional wild/exotic or vicious animals, shall require an amendment to this permit; (v) no animal may be moved to another location within the County without prior issuance of a permit for the new location; (vi) the wild, exotic or vicious animal must be securely enclosed at all times in a manner that is appropriate for the character of the animal, and it is unlawful to allow such animal to run at large; (vii) any person violating any of the provisions of Hanover County Code Chapter 4, Article III, "Wild, Exotic or Vicious Animals" shall be guilty of a Class 4 misdemeanor; and (viii) this permit is subject to revocation for failure to comply with the terms of Hanover County Code Section 4-80 or the conditions of the permit, and violation of any local, state or federal laws applicable to animals.

Signature of Applicant: 

PERMIT

(to be completed by Hanover County Animal Control)

Date permit granted or denied: _____

Type of Permit: Wild or Exotic Animal Vicious Animal

Name of applicant/permit holder: Nathaniel Lawhorn

Location of Facility: 8396 McFaye Ave. Mechanicsville, Virginia 23116

Conditions of Permit:

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____
- 7. _____

Wild/Exotic Animal Permits Only

Permit – Granted Denied

(Signature of Chief of Animal Control)

Vicious Animal Permit Only

Date(s) of Advertisement of Public Hearing: August 19th, 2015

Date of Public Hearing: September 9th, 2015

- Sign posted 2 weeks prior to hearing Notice sent to adjacent property owners
- Insurance or surety bond for \$100,000 (proof attached) \$300 permit application fee paid
paid debit 7/1/15

Permit – Granted Denied by Hanover County Board of Supervisors

(Signature of Chair of Board of Supervisor)

THIS PERMIT MUST BE KEPT ON THE PREMISES AND SHOWN WHEN REQUESTED