

BOROUGH OF ST. LAWRENCE
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

ORDINANCE NO. 453-2023

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF ST. LAWRENCE, BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING RULES GOVERNING HUNTING AND TRAPPING ON MUNICIPAL LANDS OF THE BOROUGH, AND SETTING FORTH PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Borough Code authorizes the Borough Council of the Borough of St. Lawrence ("Borough Council" and "Borough," respectively) to make and adopt ordinances that are consistent with the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of Borough residents;

WHEREAS, Borough Council believes it is in the best interests of the citizens, residents and taxpayers of the Borough to establish regulations on hunting on municipal lands of the Borough; and,

WHEREAS, Borough Council, after due consideration of the proposed Ordinance at an advertised public meeting, has determined that the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Borough will be served by the enactment of this Ordinance.

SECTION 1. Hunting on Municipal Lands. Hunting on Municipal lands of the Borough shall be governed by, and limited to, the following:

(a) Hunting is prohibited on municipal lands and municipal parks, except for a designated area of Borough-owned land, of approximately two hundred fifty (250) acres, located in the Borough and adjacent land in Exeter Township. This land may be accessed at the north end of Adams Street, and may not be accessed through private property without permission of the owner.

(b) Hunting on Borough-owned land, where permissible, shall be limited to archery hunting only. Hunting with firearms on Borough-owned land is prohibited at all times. All use of bows and arrows shall be in accordance with the regulations of the Pennsylvania Game Commission, as amended from time to time.

(c) Trapping is not permitted on any municipal lands of the Borough.

(d) Hunting permitted under this Ordinance must be conducted in accordance with the Pennsylvania Game and Wildlife Code, and any and all applicable regulations of the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

(e) All hunting shall be conducted within a lawful distance from residences and occupied areas or structures, and safety zone regulations must be strictly observed.

(f) Hunters must register and receive a permit from the Borough, which will be issued beginning July 16, and to the end of the season, for that year's archery deer hunting season. To obtain a permit, a prospective hunter should contact St. Lawrence Borough Hall. To obtain a permit, a prospective hunter must be at least eighteen (18) years of age, and must provide:

- i) A copy of his/her PA State Hunting License;
- ii) A driver's license or equivalent form of state-issued photo identification;
- iii) A signed form provided by the Borough as follows:
 - Agreeing to abide by applicable ordinances of the Borough of St. Lawrence, state statutes and regulations pertaining to hunting and conduct on public lands;
 - Agreeing to abide by standard hunting safety practices;
 - A release and indemnification of the Borough from any liability for damage or injury.
- iv) The permit must be worn on a visible part of the wearer's outer clothing.

(g) Tree stands on Borough lands can be placed out not more than two (2) weeks before the first and must be removed no later than two (2) weeks after the final deer season in that area. Placing a tree stand does not reserve the area for its owner; other hunters may hunt there. Tree stands and portable hunting blinds left on Borough game lands need to be conspicuously marked with a durable and legible identification tag that includes:

- i) the owner's first and last name and address of legal residence;
- ii) or bears the CID number that appears on the owner's hunting license; and/or;
- iii) a number issued by the Pennsylvania Game Commission to the stand or blind owner (which number can be obtained at "The Outdoor Shop" on the website of the Pennsylvania Game Commission).

SECTION 2. Penalties for Violation. Any person who violates any provisions of this Ordinance, shall, for every offense, upon conviction thereof in a summary proceeding

before a Magisterial District Judge or other appropriate judicial official, be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than Three Hundred Dollars and 00/100 (\$300.00), as well as costs of restitution for all damages caused and costs of prosecution, and/or to undergo imprisonment for a term not to exceed ninety (90) days. Furthermore, any violation of this Ordinance, or of Pennsylvania laws or regulations with respect to hunting, will result in revocation of Borough permit and denial of future permits for hunting on Borough-owned lands.

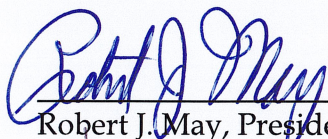
SECTION 3. If any sentence, clause, section or part of this Ordinance is for any reason found to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, such unconstitutionality, illegality or invalidity shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, sentences, clauses, sections or parts of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared as the intent of the Borough Council of the Borough of St. Lawrence that this Ordinance would have been adopted had such unconstitutional, illegal or invalid sentence, clause, section or part thereof not been included herein.

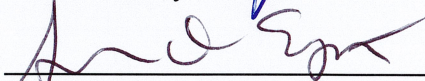
SECTION 4. All ordinances or parts of ordinances conflicting with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed insofar as they are inconsistent with this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance shall become effective on the earliest date allowable under applicable law.

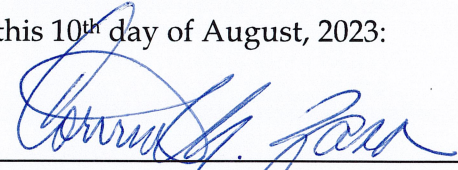
DULY ENACTED AND ORDAINED this 10th day of August, 2023.

BOROUGH OF ST. LAWRENCE
BERKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

By: 
Robert J. May, President of Council

Attest: 
Susan Eggert, Borough Secretary

Approved as an Ordinance this 10th day of August, 2023:

By: 
Carine Zapp, Mayor