

At a Regular Meeting of the Council of the Town of Boones Mill

Held at the Town Office March 14, 2017

An ordinance amending the Offenses Ordinance of December 13, 2016.

Section 5: Regulation of Weapons and Hunting

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to fire or discharge a gun, rifle, pistol or any other firearm in the corporate limits of the town, without a special permit from the chief of police, except when hunting in full compliance with the hunting regulations of the State of Virginia. (Local authority at VA Code 15.1-865)
- (b) It shall be unlawful for any person to shoot a bow, compound bow or crossbow at or upon the property of another without permission.
- (c) Archery hunting can sometimes be an effective limit on the deer population. Pursuant to Virginia Administrative Code 15-90-70, Town Council may direct staff to participate in the urban archery program of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF). The Town may in future years revoke its participation in the program. Town staff will notify the public of the status of the program, which will also be published through DGIF.
 - i. Archery hunting of deer shall be from stands elevated not less than ten feet above the level of surrounding land.
 - ii. The discharge of archery equipment shall not occur closer than 300 linear feet from any residence, nor occur closer than 100 feet from any highway, street, alley, roadway, sidewalk, or officially designated foot trail. Arrows shall not be shot in the direction of any residence, highway, street, alley, roadway, sidewalk, or officially designated foot trail.
- (d) Each violation of this section (a) or (b) or (c) shall be a class 1 misdemeanor.
- (e) This section shall not apply to law enforcement officers in the performance of their duties and shall not apply to an act that is justifiable or excusable at law in protection of life or property.
- (f) This section shall also not apply to any otherwise lawful discharge of a firearm:
 - i. On established and approved shooting ranges;
 - ii. On any target or rifle range established and operated by any law enforcement agency;
 - iii. In a private basement or cellar target range;
 - iv. With blank cartridges in theatrical performances, sporting events, or in the firing of solutes at military funerals or other military ceremonies.
- (g) No person shall feed deer. This ordinance does not apply to plantings or feeding of livestock. The penalty shall be a civil fine not to exceed \$50. (Local authority at VA Code 29.1-527.2)

Resolved on this 14th day of March, 2017.

On motion of Council member _____ to adopt the Resolution and carried by the following recorded votes:

Yays: _____

Nays: _____

ATTEST: _____

Jean P. Rucker, Clerk