



CITY OF  
*Lethbridge*

**COUNCIL DECISION**

**Date:** December 12, 2023

**Re:** Appeal of Order to Remedy Contravention of the Keeping of Wild or Domestic Animals Bylaw  
Appellant: Gilles Leclair  
Address: 636 22 Street North, Lethbridge, Alberta

**Facts:**

1. As a result of a complaint received by the City of Lethbridge, on October 14th, 2023, with respect to 636 22 Street North, Lethbridge, regarding the keeping of poultry (which includes live chickens), it was determined live chickens were being housed in the backyard of the premises;
2. Accordingly, Gilles Leclair, the owner of the property referred to above, was issued a Remedial Order dated October 20, 2023, which required him to remove, by November 13, 2023, the live chickens he had on his residential property, located at 636 22 Street North, Lethbridge, Alberta [[Exhibit A – Remedial Order](#)];
3. Gilles Leclair did not comply with the Remedial Order;
4. *Bylaw 3383, the Wild and Domestic Animal Bylaw*, prohibits keeping live poultry, which includes chickens, within the City limits [[Exhibit B - Bylaw 3383, the Wild and Domestic Animal Bylaw](#)];
5. Gilles Leclair appealed the Remedial Order within the 14-day requirement from when the Order was issued, and a Hearing was held on Tuesday, November 28, 2023 [[Exhibit C – Letter Requesting Council Review the Order](#) and [Exhibit D – Notice of Hearing](#)]; and
6. The Bylaw in question has not been challenged pursuant to section 536 of the *Municipal Government Act* of Alberta.

**Hearing:**

1. City Administration provided a report confirming that, at the relevant time, live chickens were being kept at the property owned by Gilles Leclair located at 636 22 Street North, Lethbridge, Alberta [[Exhibit E](#)];
2. Gilles Leclair gave evidence on his own behalf and confirmed:
  - a. He is the owner of 636 22 Street North, Lethbridge, Alberta;
  - b. He is aware of the prohibition of keeping live chickens at his residential property within the City of Lethbridge;
  - c. He is aware of the Bylaw and had previously been provided, on April 21, 2021, a Remedial Order to remove live chickens from his property which he complied with;
  - d. He admitted and provides in his appeal letter confirmation that it was his property and his chickens and that both were in the City of Lethbridge, Alberta;

3. The witnesses on his behalf stated:
  - a. Virgil Grandfield confirmed that Gilles Leclair kept chickens on his property and that they were quiet;
  - b. Rena Woss stated her belief that chickens should be allowed within the City of Lethbridge, Alberta; and
  - c. Tina De Luca stated her support for the appeal.

**Issue:**

1. Was the Remedial Order properly issued?
2. Was Gilles Leclair required to comply with its terms?
3. Did Gilles Leclair comply with its terms?

**Decision:**

1. The Remedial Order was properly issued as the Bylaw in question was in force and effect at all relevant times;
2. Gilles Leclair was required to comply with its terms and, in fact, was aware of the existence of the Bylaw prohibiting the keeping of live chickens at his residential property and purposefully determined to ignore the Bylaw;
3. Gilles Leclair did not comply with the terms of the Bylaw;

**Accordingly**, the Remedial Order is **CONFIRMED**, and the Appeal of Gilles Leclair is **DENIED**; and in the result, Gilles Leclair is required to remove all live chickens from his residential property no later than January 15, 2024.