

TOWN OF ST. JOHN, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA

ORDINANCE NO. 996

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE USE AND DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE TOWN OF ST. JOHN, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF, AND REPEALING TOWN ORDINANCE NO. 281, AND ALL OTHER ORDINANCES, OR PARTS THEREOF, IN CONFLICT HEREWITH.

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of St. John, Lake County, Indiana, has reviewed the existing Ordinances of the Town, and regulations therein pertaining to weapons and firearms control in the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of St. John, Lake County, Indiana, has reviewed the existing and current concerns of the residents of the Town pertaining to weapons and firearms control in the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of St. John, Lake County, Indiana, is aware of the circumstances of significantly reduced amounts of vacant or agricultural land in the Town as well as the rapidly growing and expanding residential development in the former vacant and agricultural lands; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of St. John, Lake County, Indiana, has determined, based upon its review of existing law as well as the changed circumstances of land use in the Town, that it is necessary, advisable, and in the best interests of the residents of the Town to repeal existing weapon control regulations and act to prohibit the use and discharge of firearms within the Town Municipal Corporate boundaries, in order to promote and protect the public health, safety, comfort, morals, convenience, and general welfare and well-being of the residents of the Town.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ST. JOHN, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA, THAT:

SECTION ONE: It shall be unlawful and prohibited for an person to point, aim, fire, discharge, or to suffer, permit, or allow to be pointed, aimed, fired or discharged, any gun, pistol, rifle, revolver, firearm or any other similar weapon or devise of any type within the Municipal Corporate limits of the Town of St. John, except as otherwise permitted by applicable law.

SECTION TWO: The regulations and prohibitions of this Ordinance shall not apply to Police Officers in the performance of their duties.

SECTION THREE: Violation; Penalties. The violation of any provision of this Ordinance, as amended from time to time, in addition to any penalties prescribed under any applicable State law, shall be punishable as follows for each offense, namely:

1. 1st Offense: Fine of no less than \$300.00;
2. 2nd Offense: Fine of no less than \$500.00;
3. 3rd Offense: Fine of no less than \$1000.00;
4. 4th Offense: Fine of no less than \$2500.00.

Each day of any violation of this Ordinance, as amended from time to time, shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION FOUR: That all existing Ordinances, or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance, are hereby deemed null, void, and of no legal effect, and are specifically repealed.

SECTION FIVE: If any section, clause, provision or portion of this Ordinance shall be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect any other section, clause, provision, or portion of this Ordinance.

SECTION SIX: That this Ordinance shall take effect, and be in full force and effect, from and after its passage by the Town Council of the Town of St. John.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF ST. JOHN, LAKE COUNTY, INDIANA, THIS 30th DAY OF October, 1995.

TOWN OF ST. JOHN, LAKE COUNTY,
INDIANA, TOWN COUNCIL


KENNETH D. GEMBALA, PRESIDENT


DOUGLAS E. PATTERSON, MEMBER


CARL BROWN, MEMBER

ATTEST:


JUDITH L. COMPANK,
Clerk-Treasurer