

TITLE V

Chapter 21

POSSESSION AND DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS

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21.01 PURPOSE

The intent of the Council in enacting this ordinance is to protect the health and safety of its residents and all other persons present within the municipal boundaries of the City of Blair. It is not the intent to enact an ordinance contrary to state law or to applicable provisions of the United States Constitution.

21.02 DEFINITION

For purposes of this Chapter, a firearm is defined as any instrument from or with which a shot, bullet or pellet may be discharged or expelled, regardless of whether the propelling force is provided by gun powder, air, spring or other similar mechanical device. A bow and arrow, for purposes of this section, would be defined as a firearm subject to the provisions of this chapter.

21.03 POSSESSION OF FIREARMS

No person shall have in his or her possession or carry any firearm, rifle, handgun, spring or air gun, or bow and arrow device, in any public building within the City of Blair or upon any publicly owned real estate within the City of Blair.

21.04 EXCEPTIONS

- (1) City of Blair police officers, Trempealeau County Sheriff or Sheriff's Deputy, or other law enforcement officers or personnel.
- (2) Persons engaged in the sale, purchase or trade of such firearms and devices in the ordinary course of business upon a premises used as a retail business establishment.
- (3) Customers engaged in buying, selling or trading such firearms or devices to or from a retailer upon the premises used as a retail business establishment.

21.05 DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS AND OTHER WEAPONS AND INSTRUMENTS

- (1) No person, except a police officer or other law enforcement officer in the performance of an official duty, shall fire or discharge any firearm, rifle, spring gun, air gun or pneumatic pellet gun of any description within the City of Blair, or

have in his possession or under his control same unless it is unloaded and encased or enclosed within a carrying case or other suitable container pursuant to state law.

- (2) The discharge of firearms for hunting purposes is allowed in the Agricultural District under Chapter 46 City Code of Ordinances, but not within 100 yards of a residence.
- (3) The discharge of firearms for hunting purposes is allowed in the Industrial District under Chapter 46 City Code of Ordinances, but not within 100 yards of buildings and structures

21.06 EXPLOSIVE DEVICES

- (1) No person shall discharge or detonate any dynamite, nitroglycerin or other explosive within the City of Blair without first obtaining a permit to do so from the Chief of Police.
- (2) This Section does not apply to any person or entity which has been issued a Conditional Use Permit pursuant to conditional uses permitted in the Industrial Zone, Chapter 46, City Ordinances.

21.07 HUNTING WITH BOW AND ARROW

- 1) A person is prohibited from hunting with a bow and arrow or crossbow within 100 yards of a residence located upon another person's land.
- 2) This prohibition does not apply if the land owner permits the person to engage in such hunting.
- 3) A person engaged in permitted hunting must discharge the arrow or bolt towards the ground.
- 4) A person is prohibited from hunting with a bow and arrow or crossbow in the City of Blair parks or other City owned real estate.

21.08 PENALTY

Any person who shall violate a provision of this ordinance shall, upon conviction, be punished by a forfeiture or fine of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00), for each instance, together with the cost of prosecution for each offense.

September 12, 2011 – repeal and recreate Section 21.03

June 9, 2014 – repeal and recreate Section 21.03, amend 21.05, 21.07 and renumber Section 21.08, create new Section 21.07, being part of Chapter 21, City Code of Ordinances entitled Possession and Discharge of Firearms

October 23, 2014 – repeal and recreate Section 21.05

November 22, 2023 – amended Section 21.05