ORDINANCE NO. 2007-06

AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE PRESENCE OF PETS IN ANY PARK OWNED, LEASED, MANAGED, OR OPERATED BY THE CITY OF ATKINS IN THE CITY OF ATKINS, ARKANSAS, EXCEPT UNDER CERTAIN LIMITED CIRCUMSTANCES, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF THIS ORDINANCE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the Atkins Parks and Recreation Commission has determined that the presence of pets in Atkins City Parks has frequently disturbed, annoyed, interfered with the enjoyment of, or created fear in individuals attending Atkins City Parks at various times, and,

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Atkins, Arkansas, as follows:

SECTION 1. Definitions: The following words and phrases when used in this ordinance shall for the purpose of this ordinance have the meanings respectively ascribed to them as follows:

Park: An open or partially open area or place owned, leased, managed, or operated by the City of Atkins or its duly appointed representatives for the benefit of the public at large and used for recreation, education, or natural or cultural preservation, and all auxiliary buildings including, but not limited to, restrooms, storage rooms, vending rooms, food and beverage rooms, equipment rooms, and rooms for displays, selling merchandise and offering information.

Pets: Any domesticated or undomesticated animals, such as, but not limited to: dogs, cats, horses, cattle, goats, sheep, pigs, rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, rats, mice, birds, chickens, ducks, geese and other fowl, snakes and other reptiles, amphibians, fish and other water based animals, and bees and other insects, normally possessed by individual(s) for purposes of companionship, enjoyment, or otherwise.

SECTION 2. Pets Prohibited in Parks and Exceptions: All pets shall be prohibited in all areas of City Parks except to assist a visually, physically, or mentally impaired person in regards to that person's impairment, or to assist a law enforcement officer in regards to that person's duties as a law enforcement officer.

SECTION 3. Penalties: Any person who violates any provision of this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars ($100.00) and not more than five hundred dollars ($500.00), plus costs.

SECTION 4. Emergency Clause: This ordinance being necessary for the public peace, health, and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and the provisions of this ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the City Council of the City of Atkins.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 10th day of April, 2007.

THE CITY OF ATKINS

By: _____
JERRY DON BARRETT, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
BRENDA GRAVES, City Clerk

(SEAL)