**ORDINANCE NO. 19-2016**

**OF THE GOVERNING BODY**

**OF THE BOROUGH OF BLOOMINGDALE**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF BLOOMINGDALE, COUNTY OF**

**PASSAIC AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER VIII, PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS, SECTION 8-1, PROHIBITED ACTS, OF THE BOROUGH CODE TO BAN HUNTING ON MUNICIPAL OWNED RECREATION LAND.**

 **WHEREAS,** the Borough of Bloomingdale (“Borough”) is aware of the controversy surrounding the sanctioning of hunting as a means of controlling the population of Black Bears and other wildlife in New Jersey (“State”); and

 **WHEREAS,** the Borough acknowledges extensive public concern among its residents regarding this matter, especially in light of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Fish and Wildlife Management’s continued expansion of the Black Bear hunting season; and

 **WHEREAS**, the Borough believes that hunting is an unnecessary, inhumane, and ultimately ineffective tool for managing the wildlife population, particularly with respect to Black Bears, where safer, less drastic, and more effective solutions exist; and

 **WHEREAS**, the Borough desires to formally prohibit the hunting of all wildlife, including Black Bears, on recreational land owned by the Borough.

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 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Bloomingdale that the Borough Code is hereby amended as follows:

 **SECTION ONE.** Section 8-1, Prohibited Acts, of the Borough Code shall be amended to establish the following subsection:

g. Hunt, trap, molest, frighten, chase, tease, shoot, throw missiles at, or purse any animal, reptile, or bird, or remove or destroy the eggs or the young of any animal, reptile or bird, at any time. No person shall use, carry or possess firearms of any description, or air-rifles, spring-guns, bow-and-arrows, slings or any other forms of weapons potentially inimical too wildlife and dangerous to human safety, or any instrument that can be loaded with and fire blank cartridges, or any kind of trapping device. Shooting into park area from beyond park boundaries shall be forbidden.

**SECTION 2.**All ordinances of the Borough of Bloomingdale, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

**SECTION 3.**If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

**SECTION 4.**This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon final passage, approval, and publication as required by law.

**NOTICE**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the above Ordinance was introduced and passed on first reading at an Official Meeting of the Governing Body of the Borough of Bloomingdale held in the Municipal Building on the 19th day of July 2016, and the same shall come up for final passage at an Official Meeting of the Governing Body to be held on the 16th day of August, 2016 at 7:00 P.M., at which time any persons interested shall be given the opportunity to be heard concerning said Ordinance.**

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**Jane McCarthy, RMC**

**Municipal Clerk**