

The Administrator, acting on the advice and with the consent of the Executive Committee, has been pleased under the authority of Section 270 of the Local Authorities Ordinance, 1974 (Ordinance N° 25 of 1974), to approve of the repeal of the Abattoir Bylaws for the City of Pietermaritzburg, published under Provincial Notice N° 617 on the 3rd December, 1957, as subsequently amended, and the substitution therefor of the subjoined new Bylaws relating to the Slaughter of Animals and the Examination and Stamping of Meat other than at the Abattoir, all as made by the City Council of the said City at its meeting held on the 18th December, 1973 :

**CITY OF PIETERMARITZBURG**

**BYLAWS RELATING TO THE SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS  
AND THE EXAMINATION AND STAMPING OF MEAT OTHER THAN  
AT THE ABATTOIR**

**Definitions**

1. In these Bylaws the following words and expressions shall have the meanings hereinafter assigned to them unless inconsistent with the context :

"Abattoir" shall mean the Regional Abattoir operated by the Abattoir Commission;

"Animal" shall mean and include any bull, ox, cow, heifer, steer, calf, sheep, lamb, goat, kid, pig or other quadruped commonly used for the food of man;

"Meat" shall mean the flesh, bone and internal organs of any slaughtered animal, whether in its natural state or subjected to any freezing, chilling or other preservative process, and shall also include sausages, polonies, chopped or minced meat or any other meat similarly prepared;

"Offal" shall mean and include the head, horns, feet, tail, heart, liver, kidneys, lungs, stomach, spleen, intestines and other internal organs of any slaughtered animal;

"Medical Officer" shall mean the person appointed by the Council as its Medical Officer of Health or his authorised deputy;

"Health Inspector" shall mean any person appointed by the Council to act in the capacity of Health Inspector for the purpose of examining any slaughtered animal intended for human consumption, and who shall so act.

## Slaughtering

2. (1) No person shall without the written consent of the Medical Officer slaughter any animal intended for human consumption at any place in the City other than the Abattoir, and then only at such hours and in such manner as is provided in these bylaws.  
  
(2) The Medical Officer or a Health Inspector may, if he deems fit, authorise in writing the slaughter of any animal at any place outside the Abattoir in any case where, on account of religious requirements or of injuries received by the animal or for any other cause it is considered impracticable, inadvisable or undesirable to have the animal removed to the Abattoir. In every such case the owner of the animal or other person responsible shall comply with any conditions imposed by the Medical Officer or Health Inspector and shall also conform to the requirements of these bylaws and of the Bylaws relating to the Manufacture, Storage and Sale of Foodstuffs.
3. (1) No person shall slaughter for human consumption any calf, lamb, kid, pig or other animal unless it is at least fourteen days old, is fully developed and is in a well-nourished condition.  
  
(2) No person shall, without the consent of the Medical Officer or a Health Inspector, slaughter or cause to be slaughtered any animal which appears to be heavy in young or which is on the point of giving birth to young.
4. (1) Every person engaged in the slaughtering of animals shall before proceeding to slaughter cause the head of the animal to be securely held or fastened to ensure that such animal shall be slaughtered as quickly and with as little pain as practicable.  
  
(2) No person shall slaughter, permit or suffer to be slaughtered any animal, the flesh of which is intended to be used as human food, except by shooting with the humane killer; provided that this bylaw shall not apply in the case of animals slaughtered for the use of Mahomedans or Jews.  
  
(3) Slaughtering under Jewish or Mahomedan rites shall be executed and superintended by persons duly approved by the Medical Officer and appointed by the Hebrew or Mahomedan community concerned, and every such person shall in every respect conform to the requirements of the Medical Officer under these Bylaws; provided that nothing in these bylaws shall interfere with the ceremonies or killing under Jewish or Mahomedan rites, but all unnecessary cruelty shall be avoided.
5. No person shall commence to flay or dress any slaughtered animal until the flow of blood has ceased and all signs of life are extinct. Thereafter, however, the flaying or dressing shall be completed without delay.

6. As soon as possible after an animal has been slaughtered and flayed, the slaughterman shall clearly brand or mark the carcass with the registered mark of the owner of the animal.
7. No person shall inflate, stuff or dress any carcass or any portion thereof with the object of giving it a deceptive appearance.
8. Every person engaged in slaughtering or dressing any animal shall, as soon as such animal has been slaughtered, empty the contents of the viscera, and shall collect all offal, blood, manure and refuse and deposit them in receptacles provided for the purpose.
9. All meat, fat and offal (other than unclean fat, entrails and stomachs) which becomes soiled by the contents of the alimentary tract, shall be condemned as unfit for human consumption; provided that if, in the opinion of the Medical Officer or any Health inspector, the abovementioned contamination may be removed by cutting away the soiled portions, such official may authorise this to be done and any meat, fat or offal so treated shall, if not otherwise unfit, be deemed to be fit for human consumption.

#### **Meat Inspection**

10. Immediately after an animal has been slaughtered and dressed, it shall be examined and stamped as in these bylaws provided.
11. No person shall directly or indirectly hinder, obstruct or resist the examination, inspection, stamping or branding of any animal or of any carcass, meat, fat or offal, or refuse to answer, or knowingly make a false answer to any lawful enquiry in connection therewith.
12. No person shall cut away, remove or otherwise attempt to conceal any diseased or injured part of any slaughtered animal unless he has obtained the permission of a Health Inspector to do so.
13.
  - (1) The Health Inspector shall brand or stamp with the official mark of the Council in such places and in such ways as he may deem advisable or necessary, all carcasses, meat and offal submitted for examination and passed as healthy, sound, wholesome and fit for human consumption.
  - (2) No person other than an official duly authorised thereto shall stamp or brand or mark or attach to or impress on any meat or offal any official brand or mark or any similar marking, and no person shall attach to or impress on any meat or offal any forged brand or mark or any brand or mark intended or liable to deceive the public or induce the belief that such meat or offal has been inspected and approved under these bylaws.

14. (a) No person shall introduce or cause to be introduced into the borough any meat intended for human consumption therein unless :
- (i) it is the meat of an animal previously slaughtered, examined, passed and stamped at the abattoir; or unless
  - (ii) it is the meat of an animal examined, passed and stamped at any other place of inspection which may be approved by the council for such purpose; or unless
  - (iii) in any other case the meat is, before delivery or disposal within the borough, first taken to the abattoir for examination, passing and stamping; or unless suitable arrangements are made with the Medical Officer at the time of or before the introduction of the meat as aforesaid, for the examination and stamping of the meat to be done at the premises of the introducer or other place agreed to by the Medical Officer; provided that the provisions of this bylaw shall not apply to meat which is personally conveyed into the borough by any person, or his servant or agent, for his own consumption and that of his household and not for sale.
- (b) No person shall within the borough knowingly receive, store, dispose of, supply, sell or offer for human consumption any meat introduced into the borough in contravention of the provisions of paragraph (a) hereof.
- (c) No person shall within the borough sell, offer for sale, supply or deliver for human consumption the meat of any animal slaughtered within the borough unless such meat has been examined, passed and stamped at the abattoir or in terms of these bylaws; provided that the provisions of this paragraph shall not preclude the owner of any such animal from supplying the meat thereof to members of his household for their consumption.
- (d) In any criminal proceedings where a person is charged with contravening any of the provisions of paragraph (a) or (b) hereof it shall be presumed unless and until the contrary is proved that the meat concerned was intended for human consumption within the borough.
15. (1) Subject to the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1919, and any regulations made thereunder, the Medical Officer or any Health Inspector shall seize and condemn any carcase, meat, fat or offal which, as the result of examination, is found to be diseased, unsound, unwholesome or unfit for human consumption.
- (2) Any carcase, meat, fat or offal seized and condemned, shall, upon a certificate by the Medical Officer, be destroyed or, alternatively it may, at the owner's risk be treated in such manner as the Medical Officer may decide to render it fit for human consumption.

16. Nothing contained in these bylaws shall preclude the duly authorised officers of the Council from taking action in terms of the preceding bylaw N° 15 in respect of any meat or offal which, although marked or branded as approved under these bylaws, is subsequently found to be diseased, unsound, unwholesome or otherwise unfit for human consumption.
17. No compensation will be paid for any meat, carcass or animal which had been condemned, seized or destroyed in terms of these bylaws.

#### Tariff of Charges

18. The following fees shall be payable to the City Council in respect of the examination and stamping of the meat of animals in terms of these bylaws :

1. Initial inspection

Bovine carcass	R 5,00
Sheep carcass	R 2,00
Pig carcass	R 2,00
Goat carcass	R 2,00
Game carcass	R 2,00

2. Re-Inspection

Quarter of beef	R 0,50c
Sheep, pig, goat, game, per carcass	R 0,50c

CORRECT AS AT 15 FEBRUARY 1990