

SEC. 10.02. DOG LICENSING.

Subd. 1. It is unlawful for any owner of a dog over six (6) months of age to fail to obtain a current City license therefore. Provided, however, that if the owner is a blind person using the dog for guide purposes, no license shall be required.

Subd. 2. Application for a dog license shall be on a form supplied by the City and shall be accompanied by a certificate from a licensed veterinarian which shall certify to immunization for rabies for at least the period for which the license is applied.

Subd. 3. Dog licenses shall expire on April 1 of each year. The fee for a dog license shall be established, and may, from time-to-time, be amended by ordinance of the Council.

Subd. 4. Any owner of a dog more than six (6) months old who fails to secure a license for such dog shall pay twice the annual license fee, Provided, however, that if a new owner of a dog presents satisfactory evidence that the dog is licensed by the City, such new owner shall not be required to pay more than the current license fee. The license number shall then be transferred to the new owner.

Subd. 5. Upon issuance of a license the City shall issue a tag which shall be worn at all times by the licensed dog. A duplicate for a lost tag shall be issued by the City upon presentation of a receipt showing the payment of the license fee for the current year, and upon payment of the fee or issuance of the duplicate. Dog tags shall not be transferable and no refund shall be made on any dog license fee because the owner removes his/her residence from the City or death of the dog before expiration of the license.

Subd. 6. Impounding and Release.

A. Any dog found in the City without a license tag, or any animal running at large or in violation of any other provision of this Section or required to be impounded hereunder, shall be placed in the Animal Shelter., and an accurate record of time of such placement shall be kept on each animal. Every animal so placed in the Animal Shelter shall be held for redemption by the owner for a period of not less than five (5) regular business days. A "regular business day" is one during which the Shelter is open for business to the public for at least four (4) hours between 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Impoundment records shall be preserved for a minimum of six (6) months and shall show: 1) the description of the animal by specie, breed, sex, approximate age, and other distinguishing traits; 2) the location, at which the animal was seized; 3) the date of seizure; 4) the name and address of the person from whom any animal three (3) months of age or over was received; and, 5) the name and address of the person to whom any animal three (3) months of age or over was transferred. If unclaimed, such animal shall be humanely destroyed and the carcass disposed of, unless it is requested by a licensed educational or scientific institution under authority of Minnesota Statutes, Section 35.71.

B. Upon the impounding of any animal, the owner shall be notified, or if the owner of the animal is unknown, written notice shall be posted for five (5) days at the City Hall describing the animal and the place and time of taking.

C. Animals shall be released to their owners, or persons previously in possession of them, upon a sworn statement of ownership, proof that a license has been duly issued for an impounded animal, and payment of impounding fees as established by the Council by ordinance. Provided, however, that if the owner of an impounded animal does not redeem such animal during the five (5) regular business day period, any other person may, upon complying with the provisions of this Section, redeem such animal from the Animal Shelter and be the lawful owner thereof.

D. Any impounded animal shall not be released from the Animal Shelter to a person until such animal has been vaccinated against rabies; provided, however, that no animal so impounded shall be vaccinated if the owner can present a certificate of current vaccination.

Subd. 7. Rabies Control.

A. When any owner of an animal has been notified that such animal has, or is suspected to have bitten or attacked any person he/she must, within twenty-four (24) hours, place the animal under the care and observation of the City or a licensed veterinarian for a period of not less than ten (10) days except in those cases when an animal has bitten or attacked while on the premises of the owner and the owner has a current rabies vaccination for said animal, in which case, the City may, if it feels the facilities are adequate and if the owner is a responsible person, quarantine the animal on the owner's premises. In this case, the owner must sign a statement and understand the responsibility and assume the liability that is involved with the quarantine of an animal that has bitten. The quarantined animal must at all times be available for inspection during the quarantine. At the end of the ten (10) day observation period, the animal shall be examined by the City and, if cleared, may be reclaimed by the owner and the owner must pay the expenses incurred incident thereto. Any animal impounded or placed for observation, showing active signs of rabies, suspected of having rabies or known to have been exposed to rabies, shall be confined under competent observation for such time as may be deemed necessary to determine a diagnosis. Any animal that has bitten or attacked that cannot be captured may be destroyed in such a manner that the head is not damaged and can be submitted for a rabies examination to a laboratory.

B. Any person who shall suspect that an animal in the City is infected with rabies shall report said animal to the Police Department describing the animal and giving the name and address of the owner, if known.

C. Any rabid animal may be destroyed by the Police Department or a veterinarian upon a diagnosis of rabies by a licensed authority.

D. Whenever the Health Officer determines that there is danger of the existence or spread of rabies in the City, he/she shall make the facts known to the Mayor in writing. The Mayor, upon receipt of said facts, may, by proclamation, and in the interest of public safety and general welfare of the citizenry, order all animals muzzled when off the premises of the owner. Forty-eight (48) hours after publication of such proclamation, all animals found off the premises of the owner unmuzzled shall be seized and impounded or may be immediately destroyed if all

reasonable efforts to seize said animals fail. All animals seized and impounded shall be held for observation for ten (10) days, and if cleared by a licensed veterinarian, may be claimed by the owner and the owner must pay the expensed incident thereto. Any animal not claimed may be disposed of.

Subd. 8. Unlawful Acts and Remedies Therefore.

A. It is unlawful for the owner of an animal to permit such animal to run at large in the City. Whenever an animal is found running at large, the same shall constitute prima facie evidence that the owner permitted it to run at large.

Subd. 9. Injured Animals.

A. When an animal without identification is injured and the owner cannot be found, it is the duty of the Sheriff's Department to determine if the animal for humane reasons and due to the extent of the injury and suffering should be destroyed. If the animal is destroyed, neither the City nor its agents shall be held liable for its humane act.

B. When an animal with identification, or a dog with a license tag, is injured, it shall be delivered, by the Sheriff's Department to a licensed veterinarian and the owner notified. All expenses of the City and veterinarian's fees and charges shall be paid by the owner.