

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 3-1. Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

*Animal* means any live, vertebrate creature, domestic or wild.

*Animal at large* means an animal that is off the property of the owner and not under restraint.

*Animal control officer* means any person designated by the Police Department to enforce the ordinances of the City and state statutes adopted by reference as they pertain to animal control.

*Animal shelter* means any facility operated by a humane society or municipal agency or its authorized agents for the purpose of impounding or caring for animals held under the authority of this chapter or state law.

*Bodily Harm* means bodily injury including, but not limited to, a laceration requiring stitches, any fracture of a bone, a concussion, a loss or fracture of a tooth or any temporary loss of consciousness, sight or hearing.

*Caretaker* means any person who, in the absence of the owner, temporarily harbors, shelters, keeps or is in charge of a dog, cat or any other domesticated bird or animal.

*Confined* means restriction of an animal at all times by the owner to an escape-proof building, vehicle or other enclosure.

*Cruel* means causing unnecessary and excessive pain, suffering or unjustifiable injury or death to an animal. Additionally, it shall be unlawful to tease, annoy, disturb, molest or irritate an animal that is confined to the owner's premises.

*Dangerous Animal* means any of the following:

- (1) Any animal which, when unprovoked, inflicts bodily harm on a person, domestic pet or animal on public or private property.
- (2) Any animal which repeatedly chases or approaches persons in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of attack, without provocation, upon the streets, sidewalks or any public grounds or on private property of

another without the permission of the owner or person in lawful control of the property.

- (3) Any animal with a known propensity, tendency or disposition to attack, to cause injury to, or otherwise threaten the safety of humans or other domestic pets or animals.

*Domestic animal* means any animal which normally can be considered tame and converted to home life.

*Dwelling unit* means a building or portion thereof designed to be used exclusively for residential purposes.

*Health officer* means the City Health Officer or his duly designated representative.

*Humane officer* means an individual appointed as such in accordance with §173.03.

*Kennel* means any premises wherein any person engaged in the business of boarding, breeding, buying, letting for hire, training for a fee or selling of dogs or cats.

*Licensing authority* means the political body authorized to issue animal licenses.

*Owner* means any individual that has the right of property in an animal or who keeps, harbors, cares for, acts as its custodian or who knowingly permits an animal to remain on or about his premises/property for five (5) or more consecutive days.

*Pet store* means any retail establishment in a commercially zoned building whose business includes the sale of live animals.

*Prohibited Dangerous Animal* means any of the following:

- (1) Any animal that is determined to be a prohibited dangerous animal under this division.
- (2) Any animal that, while off the owner or caretaker's property, has killed a domesticated animal without provocation.
- (3) Any animal that, without provocation, inflicts serious bodily harm on a person on public or private property.
- (4) Any animal brought from another city, village, town or county that has been declared dangerous or vicious by that jurisdiction.

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- (5) Any dog that is subject to being destroyed under s. 174.02(3), Wis. Stats.
- (6) Any dog trained, owned or harbored for the purpose of dog fighting.

**Public nuisance** means any animal which:

- (1) Molests passersby or passing vehicles;
- (2) Attacks persons or animals without provocation when such persons or animals are peacefully conducting themselves in a place where they are lawfully entitled to be;
- (3) Is at large on school grounds, parks or cemeteries;
- (4) Is repeatedly at large;
- (5) Damages private or public property;
- (6) Barks, whines or howls in an excessive, continuous or untimely fashion;
- (7) Any animal not having the vaccination as required by §3-18 of the Appleton Municipal Code;
- (8) Is the subject of repeated violations under this chapter.

**Render sterile** refers to a surgical procedure that has been performed on an animal that renders it incapable of siring or bearing offspring. The term includes neutering and spaying.

**Restraint** means that the animal is secured by a leash or lead, and under the control of a responsible person and obedient to that person's command, or within the real property limits of its owner.

**Serious bodily harm** means bodily injury which creates a substantial risk of death, or which causes serious permanent disfigurement, or which causes a permanent or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily member or organ or other serious bodily injury.

**Veterinary hospital or clinic** means any establishment maintained and operated by a licensed veterinarian for surgery, diagnosis and treatment of disease and injuries of animals.

**Wild animal** means any nonhuman primate, raccoon, skunk, fox, wolf, or any animal which is in part of the *canis lupis* species, any animal raised for fur-bearing purposes or any other animal or hybrid thereof which can normally be

found in the wild state, or poisonous reptiles, crocodylians and any other snake or reptile exceeding three (3) feet in length.

(Code 1965, §23.02; Ord 4-93, §1-6-93; Ord 32-97m §1-4-16-97; Ord 116-00, §1, 12-23-00; Ord 58-04, §1, 4-27-04; Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

**Cross reference(s)** – Definitions and rules of construction generally, §1-2.

### Sec. 3-2. Enforcement and penalties.

(a) The provisions of this chapter shall be enforced by employees of the Health Department, Police Department or other persons authorized by the City Health Officer or Chief of Police. The City Health Officer may grant any exemptions or variances to the enforcement of this chapter for dogs specially trained to lead blind or deaf persons, to provide support for mobility-impaired persons or to assist with emergency search and rescue operations.

(b) Police Department and Health Department personnel are authorized to catch and impound animals at large, with such authorization to include the pursuit of animals upon the premises of the owner, caretaker or other private property. It shall be a violation of this chapter to interfere with the Health Department, Police Department or other persons authorized by the City Health Officer or Chief of Police in the performance of their duties.

(c) Any person who shall violate any provision of this chapter shall be subject to a penalty as provided in §1-16. (Code 1965, §23.13; Ord 40-96, §1, 5-1-96; Ord 164-02, §1, 8-27-02; Ord 17-5, §1, 3-8-105)

**Cross reference(s)** - Citation for violation of certain ordinances, §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation. §1-18; health officer §2-261 et seq.; police department, §2-346 et seq.

### Sec. 3-3. Authority to order general confinement of dogs and cats.

Whenever the safety of the public shall require it, the Mayor, by notice published in the official paper of the City, shall order that, for a period of twenty (20) days from and after the date of the notice, no dogs or cats shall be permitted to go abroad in any of the streets, lanes, alleys or public places in the City without being properly muzzled with a secure muzzle or being led by a chain or other secure fastening.

(Code 1965, §23-14)

### Sec. 3-4. Animal care generally.

No owner or caretaker of an animal shall fail to provide it with adequate food, adequate water and adequate heating, cooling, ventilation, sanitation, shelter, and

medical care consistent with the normal requirements of an animal's size, species and breed.

(Code 1965, §23.09(1); Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

Cross reference(s) – Citation for violation of certain ordinances, §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation. §1-81.

**Sec. 3-5. Abuse of animal; fighting animals.**

(a) No person shall beat, cruelly ill-treat, torment, overload, overwork or otherwise abuse an animal.

(b) No person shall cause, instigate or permit any dogfight, cockfight or other combat between animals or between animals and humans and no person may own, possess, keep or train any animal with the intent that the animal be engaged in fighting with other animals or humans. This section shall not apply to animals used by law enforcement, military or licensed security agencies, or animals whose owner or caretaker is a member of a nationally recognized animal organization and the animal is specially trained to compete in organized exhibitions, competitions or trials sanctioned by a recognized organization.

(Code 1965, §23.09(2); Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

Cross reference(s) – Citation for violation of certain ordinances, §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation. §1-18.

**Sec. 3-6. Abandonment.**

No owner or caretaker of an animal shall abandon such animal.

(Code 1965 §23.09(3); Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

Cross reference(s) – Citation for violation of certain ordinances. §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation, §1-18.

**Sec. 3-7. Giving animal as prize or inducement.**

No person shall give away any live animal, fish, reptile or bird as a prize for or as an inducement to enter any contest, game or other competition or as an inducement to enter a place of amusement, or offer such animal as an incentive to enter into any business agreement whereby the offer was for the purpose of attracting trade.

(Code 1965, §23.09(4))

Cross reference(s) – Citation for violation of certain ordinances, §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation. §1-18.

**Sec. 3-8. Reserved.**

Editor's Note: This section, sale of baby fowl was deleted by Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

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**Sec. 3-9. Report of vehicle striking animal.**

Any person who, as the operator of a motor vehicle, strikes a domestic animal, shall stop at once and shall immediately report such injury or death to the animal's owner or caretaker. If the owner or caretaker cannot be ascertained and located, such operator shall at once report the accident to the Police Department or to the Humane Society.

(Code 1965, §23.09(6); Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

Cross reference(s) - Citation for violation of certain ordinances. §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation. §1-18.

**Sec. 3-10. Poisoning.**

No person shall expose any poisonous substances, whether mixed with food or not, so that the substance shall be liable to be eaten by any animal, provided that it shall not be unlawful for a person to expose on his own property poisons designed for the purpose of rodent or pest extermination. This provision shall not prohibit the Health Department personnel or licensed pest control operators from providing rodent or pest control services.

(Code 1965, §23.09(7))

Cross reference(s) – Citation for violation of certain ordinances, §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation, §1-18.

**Sec. 3-11. State law regarding cruelty to animals adopted.**

W.S.A. §951.02 regarding cruelty to animals is hereby adopted by reference and made an offense punishable as a violation of this Code.

(Code 1965, §8.02(7))

Cross reference(s) - Citation for violation of certain ordinances, §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation, §1-18.

**Sec. 3-12. Maximum number of animals.**

No person or household shall keep more than six (6) animals, the maximum number of dogs being three (3), the maximum number of rabbits being two (2), on any City lot, land parcel, or dwelling unit if in a multiple dwelling unit, with the exception of a litter of pups or kittens, which may be kept for a period of time not to exceed five (5) months from birth. This section does not apply to premises holding a valid kennel license.

(Code 1965, §23.10; Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

Cross reference(s) - Citation for violation of certain ordinances. §1-7; schedule of deposits for citation. §1-18.

**Sec. 3-13. Maintenance of pens and enclosures.**

All pens, yards, structures or areas where animals are kept shall be maintained in a nuisance free manner. Excrement shall be removed regularly and disposed of

properly so not to attract insects or rodents, become unsightly, or cause objectionable odors.

(Code 1965, §23.12(3); Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

Cross reference(s) - Citation for violation of certain ordinances, §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation, §1-18.

**Sec. 3-14. Removal of animal waste.**

(a) The owner or caretaker of an animal shall promptly remove and dispose of, in a sanitary manner, any excrement left or deposited by the animal upon public or private property.

(b) The owner or caretaker of a dog or cat shall have in his or her immediate possession an appropriate means of removing animal excrement whenever said animal is not on property owned or possessed by the owner or caretaker. This subsection shall not be applicable in cases in which a person is being assisted by a trained and certified seeing eye or mobility assistance dog.

(Code 1965, §23.12(1), (2); Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

Cross reference(s) - Citation for violation of certain ordinances, §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation, §1-18

**Sec. 3-15. Restraint, nuisance animals.**

(a) The owner or caretaker of any animal shall confine, restrain or maintain control over the animal so that the unprovoked animal does not run at large, attack or injure any person or domesticated animal.

(b) All owners shall exercise proper care and control of their animals to prevent them from becoming a public nuisance.

(c) Every female dog or cat in heat shall be confined in a building or secure enclosure, or otherwise restrained, in such a manner that such female dog or cat cannot come into contact with another unneutered male of the same species, except for planned breeding.

(Code 1965, §23.06(1) – (3); Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

Cross reference(s) - Citation for violation of certain ordinances. §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation §1-18.

**Sec. 3-16. Impoundment.**

(a) Unrestrained and nuisance animals shall be taken by authorized employees of the Police Department and impounded in a temporary or permanent animal shelter and there confined in a humane manner.

(b) When an animal is causing a public nuisance and its owner cannot be contacted at the time of the complaint, it may be impounded by authorized employees of the Police Department after an attempt to contact the owner is unsuccessful. After impoundment, reasonable attempts shall be made to contact the owner.

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(c) An owner reclaiming an impounded animal shall pay the accrued impoundment fee and comply with provisions of Article II, Division 2 of this chapter.

(d) Any animal not reclaimed by its owner within seven (7) days becomes the property of the local government authority or humane society and shall be placed for adoption in a suitable home or humanely euthanized.

(Code 1965, §23.08; Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

**Sec. 3-17. Report of animal bites and scratches.**

All incidents occurring in the City in which any animal bites or scratches a person or another animal, or is suspected of such, shall immediately be reported to the Police Department by any person having knowledge of such incident. If the bite or scratch is caused by an animal for which there is no rabies vaccine or known quarantine, the animal, at the discretion of the Police Department or Health Officer, may be euthanized and analyzed for rabies with all expenses incurred being the responsibility of the owner.

(Code 1965, §23.07; Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

Cross reference(s) - Citation for violation of certain ordinances, §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation, §1-18.

**Sec. 3-18. Rabies vaccination for dogs, cats and ferrets; exemption.**

(a) The owner of a dog, cat or ferret shall have the animal vaccinated by a veterinarian at not later than five (5) months of age; or, if an owner obtains or brings an animal into the City that has reached five (5) months of age, unless that animal has been vaccinated as evidenced by a current certificate of rabies vaccination from this state or another state, the owner of that animal shall have the animal revaccinated:

- (1) Before the date that the immunization expires as stated on the certificate; or
- (2) If no date is specified, within one (1) year after the previous vaccination.

(b) The owner of a dog may petition the Health Officer for an exemption to this section. Exemptions shall only be considered if a licensed veterinarian provides a detailed written explanation stating the vaccination is inadvisable because of a reaction to a previous vaccination, a physical condition, or a regimen of therapy that the dog is undergoing. A new letter shall be required for each year that an exemption is sought. The owner may appeal the Health Officer's decision to the Board of Health by following the same review process set forth in Code §3-131.

(Code 1965, §23.032)(a); Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05; Ord 78-06, §1, 6-13-06)

**Cross reference(s)** - Citation for violation of certain ordinances, §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation, §1-18.

**Sec. 3-19. Confinement of dog, cat or ferret involved in bite or scratch incident.**

(a) If any dog, cat or ferret for which the owner holds a current rabies certificate is involved in a bite or scratch incident, the owner shall quarantine and confine the animal under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian for at least ten (10) days from the date of the incident. The animal shall not be allowed to come in contact with other animals or people during the period of confinement. Supervision of a veterinarian includes, at a minimum, examination of the animal on the first day, on the tenth day, and on one (1) intervening day.

(b) Any dog, cat or ferret involved in a bite or scratch incident that has not been vaccinated or has not been revaccinated within the prescribed times must be confined at a veterinary hospital or a place designated by the City Health Officer or the Police Department.

(c) The owner of any dog, cat or ferret involved in a bite or scratch incident is responsible for any expenses incurred.

(Code 1965, §23.03(2)(d); Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

**Cross reference(s)** - Citation for violation of certain ordinances, §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation, §1-18.

**Sec. 3-20. State law regarding humane officers, rabies control and dogs adopted.**

The provisions of W.S.A. Chapter 173, §95.21 and Chapter 174, exclusive of any penalties, are adopted by reference and are made part of this chapter, so far as applicable.

(Code 1965, §23.01)

**State law reference(s)** - Rabies control, W.S.A. §95.21; dogs, W.S.A. ch. 174.

**Sec. 3-21. Record of sales for pet shops, animal dealers.**

Pet shops and animal dealers shall keep a record of all sales of dogs, cats and ferrets. The record shall contain the date and source of acquisition of the animal and the name, address and telephone number of the purchaser. The record of such sale must be kept at least one (1) year and all records shall be subject to inspection by the Police Department or any employee of the Health Department.

(Code 1965, §23.18)

**Sec. 3-22. Humane officer; appointment; authority.**

Pursuant to Section 173.03 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the Common Council for the City of Appleton, may from time to time, appoint one (1) or more Humane Officers. Humane Officers shall have the authority specified in ch. 173 and shall be under the direction of the Chief of Police or designee thereof.

**Sec. 3-23. Abatement orders.**

(a) **Issuance of order.** After investigation, if a humane officer or law enforcement officer has reasonable grounds to believe that a violation of a statute or ordinance is occurring and that the violation is causing or has the potential to cause injury to an animal, the humane officer or law enforcement officer may issue and serve an order or abatement pursuant to section 173.11 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

(b) **Hearing officer.** Any person named in an order issued under sub. (a) may, within the ten- (10-) day period following service of the order, request a hearing on the order. The Health Officer shall conduct the hearing pursuant to the provisions of section 173.11 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

(c) **Appeal.** Appeal from the decision of the Health Officer or other official shall be as provided in section 173.11 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

(Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

**Sec. 3-24. Police dogs.**

No person shall knowingly resist, obstruct or interfere with any police dog while the dog is on duty in pursuit of its police duties. Any police dog shall be exempt from the provisions of the animal control ordinance and other City ordinances, including quarantine periods after a bite, while on duty.

(Editor's Note: This section replaces §10-11, which has been deleted.)

(Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

**Secs. 3-25 - 3-50. Reserved.**

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### ARTICLE II. LICENSES

#### DIVISION I. GENERALLY

##### Sec. 3-51. Issuance.

(a) It shall be a condition of the issuance of any license under this article that the Police Department or Health Department shall be permitted to inspect all animals and the premises where the animals are kept at any time. If permission for such inspection is refused, the license of the refusing owner shall be revoked.

(b) If the applicant has withheld or falsified any information on the application, the licensing authority shall refuse to issue a license.

(c) No person who has been convicted of cruelty to animals shall be issued an animal license or be granted a license to operate a kennel.

(Code 1965, §23.05(4) – (6); Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

##### Sec. 3-52. Restricted species.

(a) Except as otherwise permitted within this section, no person shall keep, sell or offer for sale within the City any horses, cows, pigs, goats, sheep, bees, pigeons, chickens, geese, ducks or other fowl or any other domestic animal other than a dog, cat, rabbit, small caged birds, small caged animals or reptiles or aquatic and amphibian animals, kept solely as pets.

(b) Upon obtaining a permit issued by the Health Department, up to five (5) honeybee hives may be maintained by a permit holder within areas zoned P-I, Public Institutional District; or, a permit holder may maintain three (3) honeybee hives per acre up to a maximum of twenty-five (25) hives within an area approved as an urban farm.

(c) Upon obtaining a permit issued by the Health Department, residential honeybee hives may be maintained subject to the requirements and limitations on file with the Health Department.

(c) Upon obtaining a permit issued by the Health Department, and subject to the requirements and limitations on file with the Health Department, a limited number of pigeons may be maintained by the permit holder.

(Ord 39-92, §1, 4-15-92; Ord 141-09, §1, 8-25-09; Ord 74-11, §1, 3-22-11; Ord 37-12, §1, 5-16-12; Ord 12-13, §1, 4-9-13; Ord 82-15, §1, 10-13-15)

##### Sec. 3-53. Kennels and pet stores.

Except as otherwise provided, the restrictions and conditions imposed by this division shall apply to kennels

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and pet store licenses pursuant to Chapter 9. Kennel and pet store operators shall have dogs and cats vaccinated against rabies, but are not required to license individual animals. No kennel or pet store license or fee is required of any veterinary hospital or clinic or animal shelter. The location of kennels and pet stores is subject to applicable zoning and other regulations.

(Ord. 33-97, §1, 4-16-97; Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

Secs. 3-54 – 3-65. Reserved.

**DIVISION 2. LICENSE FOR DOGS  
AND CATS.**

**Sec. 3-66. Required.**

(a) Any person owning, keeping, harboring or having custody of any dog or cat over five (5) months of age within the City must obtain a license as provided in this division.

(b) Application for a license must be made within thirty (30) days after obtaining a dog or cat over four (4) months of age, except that this requirement will not apply to a nonresident keeping a dog, or cat within the municipality for not longer than thirty (30) days.

(Code 1965, §23.03(a) (1), (4))

Cross reference(s) - Citation for violation of certain ordinances, §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation. §1-18.

**Sec. 3-67. Application.**

Written application for a dog or cat license shall be made to the licensing authority and shall include the name and address of the applicant, a description of the animal, any additional information requested, the appropriate fee, and a rabies certificate issued by a licensed veterinarian.

(Code 1965, §23.03(1)(a)(2); Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

**Sec. 3-68. Reserved.**

Editor's Note: This section, Term, was deleted by Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

**Sec. 3-69. Issuance; fee.**

(a) A dog or cat license shall be issued after completing an application, showing evidence of rabies vaccination and payment of the applicable fee. Evidence of neutering, spaying, or other method of rendering the animal sterile, from a licensed veterinarian, will be required to receive the discounted fee for animals rendered sterile.

(b) License fees shall be as follows:

(1) For each dog or cat not rendered sterile, eleven dollars (\$11.00)

(2) For each dog or cat rendered sterile, six dollars (\$6.00).

(Code 1965, §23.03(1)(a)(5); Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

**Sec. 3-70. Persons exempted from fee.**

The license fee provided in this division shall not be required for governmental police dogs or other dogs subject to exemptions under Stats. Sec. 174.054, 174.055 and 174.056, as amended. Every person owning such a dog shall receive a free dog license annually upon application. (Code 1965, §23.03(1)(a)(5))

**Sec. 3-71. License year; proration of fee.**

The license year commences on January 1 and ends on the following December 31. Application for a license may be made thirty (30) days prior to the license year. Persons applying for a license during the licensing year shall be required to pay fifty percent (50%) of the fee stipulated in this division if the animal becomes five (5) months of age after July 1 of the licensing year.

(Code 1965, §23.03(1)(a)(9))

**Sec. 3-72. Late fee.**

The Director of Finance shall assess and collect a late fee of five dollars (\$5.00) if the owner fails to obtain a dog or cat license prior to April 1 of each year or within thirty (30) days of acquiring ownership of a licensable animal, or if the owner failed to obtain a license on or before the animal reached licensable age.

(Code 1965, Ord 4-93, §1, 1-6-93; Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

**Sec. 3-73. Duplicates.**

A duplicate dog or cat license may be obtained upon payment of a replacement fee of five dollars (\$5.00).

**Sec. 3-74. Issuance of tags.**

Upon acceptance of the dog or cat license application and fee, the licensing authority shall issue a durable tag stamped with an identifying number and the year of issuance. Tags should be designed so that they may be conveniently fastened or riveted to the animal's collar or harness.

**Sec. 3-75. Record of tags.**

The licensing authority shall maintain a record of the identifying numbers of all dog and cat license tags and shall make this record available to the public.

**Sec. 3-76. Wearing of license tag, rabies tag required.**

Dogs and cats must wear license and rabies vaccination tags at all times when off the premises of the owner, with the exception of show dogs or cats during competition.

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Cross reference(s) – Citation for violation of certain ordinances, §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation, §1-18.

**DIVISION 3. RESERVED**

**Secs. 3-91 – 3-115. Reserved.**

**Sec. 3-77. Unlawful use.**

No person may use any dog or cat license for any animal other than the animal for which it was issued.

Cross reference(s) – Citation for violation for certain ordinances. §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation, §1-18.

**Sec. 3-78. Revocation.**

(a) The Safety and Licensing Committee, with Common Council approval, may revoke any dog or cat license if the person holding the license refuses or fails to comply with this chapter or any other law governing the protection and keeping of animals.

(b) Any person whose license is revoked shall, within ten (10) days thereafter, humanely dispose of all animals owned, kept or harbored. No part of the license fee shall be refunded. For any animal, a receipt from an animal shelter, veterinarian or other individual must be obtained as proof of proper disposal.

(Code 1965, §23.05(1), (3); Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

**Secs. 3-79 – 3-90. Reserved.**



ARTICLE III. WILD OR DANGEROUS ANIMALS

DIVISION 1. GENERALLY.

Sec. 3-116. Keeping for exhibition purposes; keeping wild animal as pet.

(a) No person shall exhibit or permit to be kept on their premises or any public place any wild animal for display or exhibition purposes, whether gratuitously or for a fee.

(b) The prohibitions in (a) of this section do not apply when the creatures are in the care, custody or control of a veterinarian for treatment.

(c) Public or private educational institutions, non-profit organizations, itinerant or transient carnivals, circuses or other theatrical performances may seek, from the Health Officer, a limited exemption from this section provided the display will be of limited duration and meet any other requirements or conditions mandated by the Health Officer. The person or organization having custody and control of any animal permitted by this section shall be responsible for compliance with all other provisions of this chapter while the animal remains within the City limits.

(d) No person shall keep or permit to be kept any wild animal as a pet.  
(Code 1965, §23.11; Ord 59-04, §1, 4-27-04; Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

Sec. 3-117. Feeding of deer or other wild animals prohibited.

No person may place any salt, mineral, grain, fruit or vegetable material outdoors on any public or private property for the purpose of feeding whitetail deer or other wild animals.

(a) *Presumption.* There shall be a rebuttable presumption that either of the following acts are for the purpose of feeding whitetail deer:

- (1) The placement of salt, mineral, grain, fruit or vegetable material in an aggregate quantity of greater than one-half (½) gallon at the height of less than six (6) feet off the ground.
- (2) The placement of salt, mineral, grain, fruit or vegetable material in an aggregate quantity of greater than one-half (½) gallon in a drop feeder, automatic feeder or similar device regardless of the height of the grain, fruit or vegetable material.

(b) *Exceptions.* This ordinance shall not apply to the following situations:

- (1) Naturally growing materials. Naturally growing grain, fruit or vegetable material, including gardens.
- (2) Bird feeders. Unmodified commercially purchased bird feeders or their equivalent.
- (3) Authorized by the Common Council. Deer feeding may be authorized on a temporary basis by the Common Council for a specific purpose as determined by the Common Council.

(Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

Cross reference(s) - Citation for violation of certain ordinances, §1-17; schedule of deposits for citation, §1-18.

Secs. 3-118 – 3-130. Reserved.

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### DIVISION 2. DANGEROUS ANIMALS

#### Sec. 3-131. Procedure for declaring animal dangerous.

(a) Upon conducting an investigation the humane or law enforcement officer may issue an order declaring an animal to be a dangerous animal. Whenever an owner or caretaker wishes to contest an order, he or she shall, within seventy-two (72) hours after receipt of the order, deliver to the Health Officer a written objection to the order stating specific reasons for contesting the order. Upon receipt of the written objection, the matter shall be placed on the Agenda for the Board of Health to be reviewed at the next regular meeting. The Board of Health shall act as a quasi-judicial body allowing the animal's owner or caretaker an opportunity to present evidence as to why the animal should not be declared dangerous.

(b) After the hearing, the owner or caretaker shall be notified in writing of the Board's determination. If the Board upholds the determination that the animal is dangerous, the owner or caretaker shall comply with the requirements of §3-132. If the owner or caretaker further contests the determination, he or she may, within five (5) days of receiving the panel's decision, seek review of the decision by the Circuit Court.

(c) Upon an animal being declared dangerous, the owner or caretaker shall immediately comply with leashing, muzzling and confinement requirements of §3-132 with all other requirements in that section being satisfied within thirty (30) days of the dangerous declaration or reaffirmation thereof, or within such time as established by the Board of Health.

(Code 1965, §23.06(4)(e); Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05 ; Ord 117-07, §1, 7-24-07)

#### Sec. 3-132. Harboring dangerous animals.

##### (a) *Dangerous animals regulated.*

- (1) No person may harbor or keep a dangerous animal within the city unless all provisions of this section are complied with. Any animal that is determined to be a prohibited dangerous animal under this division shall not be kept or harbored in the city.
- (2) The issuance of a citation for a violation of this section need not be predicated on a determination that an animal is a dangerous animal.

(b) *Registration.* The owner of any animal declared dangerous, shall register it with the Police Department upon disposition, and annually thereafter on or before April 1 of each year, by providing a current color photograph of the

animal and payment of a seventy-five dollar (\$75.00) registration fee.

##### (c) *Leash and muzzle.*

- (1) No owner or caretaker, harboring or having the care of a dangerous animal may permit such an animal to go outside its dwelling, kennel or pen unless the animal is securely restrained with a leash no longer than four (4) feet in length.
- (2) No person may permit a dangerous animal to be kept on a chain, rope or other type of leash outside its dwelling, kennel or pen unless a person who is sixteen (16) years of age or older, competent to govern the animal and capable of physically controlling and restraining the animal, is in physical control of the leash.
- (3) A dangerous animal may be securely leashed or chained to an immovable object, with the owner or caretaker being in the physical presence of the animal at all times when it is so leashed or chained.
- (4) A dangerous animal outside of the animal's dwelling, kennel or pen shall be muzzled in a humane way by a muzzling device sufficient to prevent the animal from biting persons or other animals.

##### (d) *Confinement.*

- (1) Except when leashed and muzzled, all dangerous animals shall be securely confined indoors or in a securely enclosed and locked pen or kennel that is located on the premises of the owner or caretaker and constructed in a manner that does not allow the animal to exit the pen or kennel on its own volition.
- (2) When constructed in a yard, the pen or kennel shall, at a minimum, be constructed to conform to the requirements of this paragraph. The pen or kennel shall be child-proof from the outside and animal-proof from the inside. A strong metal double fence with adequate space between fences (at least two (2) feet) shall be provided so that a child cannot reach into the animal enclosure. The pen, kennel or structure shall have secure sides and a secure top attached to all sides. A structure used to confine a dangerous animal shall be locked with a key or combination lock when the animal is within the structure.

The structure shall either have a secure bottom or floor attached to the sides of the pen or the sides of the pen shall be embedded in the ground no less than two (2) feet. All structures erected to house dangerous animals shall comply with all city zoning and building regulations. All structures shall be adequately lighted and ventilated and kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

- (3) *Indoor Confinement.* No dangerous animal may be kept on a porch, patio or in any part of a house or structure on the premises of the owner or caretaker that would allow the animal to exit the building on its own volition. No dangerous animal may be kept in a house or structure when the windows are open or when screen windows or screen doors are the only obstacle preventing the animal from exiting the structure.

(e) *Signs.* The owner or caretaker of a dangerous animal shall display, in prominent places on his or her premises near all entrances to the premises, signs in letters of not less than two (2) inches high warning that there is a dangerous animal on the property. A similar sign is required to be posted on the kennel or pen of the animal. In addition, the owner or caretaker shall conspicuously display a sign with a symbol warning children of the presence of a dangerous animal.

(f) *Spay and neuter requirement.* Within thirty (30) days after an animal has been designated dangerous, the owner or caretaker of the animal shall provide written proof from a licensed veterinarian that the animal has been spayed or neutered.

(g) *Liability insurance.* The owner or caretaker of a dangerous animal shall present to the Health Officer or Humane Officer a certificate of insurance that the owner or caretaker has procured liability insurance in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 for any personal injuries inflicted by the dangerous animal. Whenever such policy is cancelled or not renewed, the insurer and animal's owner or caretaker shall notify the Health Officer or Humane Officer of such cancellation or non renewal in writing by certified mail.

(h) *Waiver by Board of Health.* Upon request, by the owner or caretaker, the Board of Health may waive any requirement specified in subsections (a) through (g) that is deemed to be inappropriate for a particular dangerous animal.

(i) *Notification.* The owner or caretaker shall notify the police department within twenty-four (24) hours if a dangerous animal is at large, is unconfined, has attacked another animal or has attacked a human being or has died.

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No person may sell or transfer possession of a dangerous animal to another person without first notifying the person to whom the dangerous animal is being sold or transferred of the fact that such animal is a dangerous animal and of any requirements imposed upon the selling or transferring party by this division. No person may sell or transfer possession of a dangerous animal to another person, agency, organization or the like without first notifying the Police Department in writing, at least three (3) days in advance of the sale or transfer of possession with the name, address and telephone number of the new owner of the dangerous animal. If the dangerous animal is sold or given away to a person residing outside the city, the owner or caretaker shall present evidence to the Police Department showing that he or she has notified the Police Department, or other law enforcement agency of the animal's new residence, including the name, address and telephone number of the new owner of the dangerous animal.

(j) *Euthanasia.* If the owner or caretaker of an animal that has been designated a dangerous animal is unwilling or unable to comply with the regulations for keeping the animal in accordance with this section, he or she may have the animal humanely euthanized by an animal shelter, the humane society or a licensed veterinarian.

(k) *Waiver.* The Health Officer may waive the provisions of subsections (b) to (g) for a law enforcement or military animal upon presentation by the animal's owner or handler of satisfactory arrangement for safe keeping of the animal.  
(Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

### Sec. 3-133. Certain animals not be declared dangerous

Notwithstanding the definition of a dangerous animal in §3-1:

(a) No animal may be declared dangerous if death, injury or damage is sustained by a person who, at the time such injury or damage was sustained, was committing a trespass on the land or criminal trespass on the dwelling upon premises occupied by the owner of the animal; was teasing, tormenting, abusing or assaulting the animal; or was committing or attempting to commit a crime or violating or attempting to violate an ordinance which protects persons or property.

(b) No animal may be declared dangerous if death, injury or damage was sustained by a domestic animal which, at the time such was sustained, was teasing, tormenting, abusing or assaulting the animal.

(c) No animal may be declared dangerous if the animal was protecting or defending a human being within the immediate vicinity of the animal from an unjustified attack or assault.

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(d) No animal may be declared dangerous for acts committed by the animal while being utilized by a law enforcement agency for law enforcement purposes while under the control and direction of a law enforcement officer.

(Code 1965, §23.02(p); Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)

### Sec. 3-134. Prohibited dangerous animals.

(a) *Not allowed in city.* No person may bring into or keep in the city any animal that is a prohibited dangerous animal under this section.

(b) Determination of a prohibited dangerous animal.

(1) The Health Officer or Police Department may determine an animal to be a prohibited dangerous animal whenever the Health Officer or Police Department finds that an animal meets the definition of prohibited dangerous animal or is a dangerous animal in non-compliance with any of the provisions of §3-132.

(2) Upon conducting an investigation and finding an animal meets the definition of a prohibited dangerous animal, the Police Department may issue an order declaring an animal to be a prohibited dangerous animal. Whenever an owner or caretaker wishes to contest an order, he or she shall, within seventy-two (72) hours after receipt of the order, deliver to the Health Officer a written objection to the order stating specific reasons for contesting the order. Upon receipt of the written objection, the matter shall be placed on the agenda for the Board of Health to be reviewed at the next regular meeting. The Board of Health shall act as a quasi-judicial body allowing the animal's owner or caretaker an opportunity to present evidence as to why the animal should not be declared a prohibited dangerous animal.

(3) Pending the outcome of the hearing, the animal may be confined subject to Sec. 173.21, Wis. Stats., or held at a location outside the limits of the City.

(4) After the hearing, the owner or caretaker shall be notified in writing of the Board's determination. If a determination is made that the animal is a prohibited dangerous animal, the owner or caretaker shall comply with subsection (a) within five (5) days after the date of the determination. If the owner or

caretaker further contests the determination, he or she may, within five (5) days of receiving the panel's decision, seek review of the decision by the Circuit Court.

(c) *Destruction.* Any dog that has caused bodily harm to a person, persons or a domestic animal on two (2) separate occasions off the owner's premises, without reasonable cause, may be destroyed as a result of judgment rendered by a court of competent jurisdiction, as specified under sec. 174.02(3), Wis. Stats. The City Attorney may petition an appropriate court to obtain a court order to destroy such a dog.

(d) *Enforcement.* The Health Department and Police Department may make whatever inquiry is deemed necessary to ensure compliance with this section.

(e) *Waiver.* The Health Officer may waive the provisions of this section for a law enforcement or military animal upon presentation by the animal's owner or handler of a satisfactory arrangement for safe keeping of the animal.

Ord 17-05, §1, 3-8-05)