

**IN THE CITY OF APPLETON,
OUTAGAMIE COUNTY, STATE OF
WISCONSIN, BEFORE THE
BOARD OF HEALTH.**

CITY OF APPLETON,
A Wisconsin Municipal Corporation

Petitioner,

v.

KENYA WILSON,
As owner of ALPHA: Lab/Husky Mix, Brown, Male, N+, L+2026, R+ 2028

Respondent.

The Board of Health for the City of Appleton hereby **UPHOLDS** Humane Officer Fillebrown's determination of the Respondent's dog, Alpha, as a Dangerous Animal, under City of Appleton's Municipal Code 3-131, but **subject to only the following requirements:**

(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) The animal must be kept within the fenced area of the owner's yard or on a leash no longer than four feet when outside of the owner's fenced yard.

(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 childproof 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.~~ [MODIFIED BY BOARD OF HEALTH TO NOT INCLUDE STRUCK LANGUAGE.]

(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.

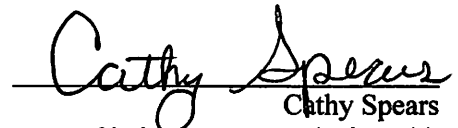
[MODIFIED BY BOARD TO CLARIFY THAT SIGNAGE IS ONLY REQUIRED TO BE DISPLAYED ON THE APARTMENT UNIT DOOR WHILE RESIDING IN AN APARTMENT BUILDING.]

(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.

If the Owner further contests this determination, the Owner may seek review of the Board of Health's decision by the Circuit Court within five (5) days of receiving this decision.

Dated this 11th day of March 2026


Cathy Spears
Chairperson, Board of Health