



MEMORANDUM

TO: Environmental Concerns Committee

THROUGH: Carl Goldsmith, Director of Public Works

FROM: David Gorman, Assistant Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: Dog Tags

DATE: April 18, 2012

Per the Chair's request, Staff is placing an item on the meeting agenda to discuss the Village's dog tag program. Staff from the Finance and Police Departments contributed to the information provided in this memo.

The Village Code for licensing dogs was enacted in 1931. The purpose at the time is believed to have been to identify dogs in order to return them quickly to their owners. Subsequently, rabies vaccination became widespread in the 1940s so an important benefit of having an annual as opposed to a one-time registration tag is to verify that dogs have received the annual vaccination in order to protect officers and others handling the dogs.

The annual tag must be purchased at Village Hall at a cost of \$5 for each dog. The application can be printed from the website or filled out at the Village Hall. Rabies tag information is also required. There were 828 tags sold in the last licensing year (3/15/11-3/14/12), resulting in a revenue of \$4,140. The tags cost only about \$100 total and staff time to administer the program is not quantified since it is done during normal working hours. Fines collected through tickets last year totaled \$225.

Dogs that cannot be identified are impounded at a cost of \$50, plus \$10/day thereafter. When necessary, the cost to impound a dog that has a tag is \$25, plus \$10/day thereafter. The officer can also issue up to three tickets for a stray dog without tags at \$25/ticket. There can be delays in returning dogs without tags since the rabies vaccination information is only available from DuPage County Animal Control while they are open.

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attachment: Village Code §90.10-§90.19

cc: David Hulseberg, Village Manager
Ray Byrne, Chief of Police
Tim Sexton, Director of Finance

GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 90.10 COLLARS REQUIRED

Any animal kept within the Village shall have a collar around its neck which shall have attached to it all tags issued as proof of compliance with state, county or local ordinances to which the animal is subject.

§ 90.11 CONFINEMENT AND REDEMPTION

(A) The Chief of Police or his/her designee shall capture and cause to be confined in an animal control center any unlicensed dogs three (3) months of age or older; any dog found running at large; any abandoned animal; any dangerous or vicious animal that has acted in a threatening or terrorizing manner or has bitten or attempted to bite a person or animal; any dangerous or vicious dog; or any animal maintained in violation of this chapter.

(B) Fees for impoundment shall be as follows:

(1) The fee for redeeming any dog or cat which has previously been implanted with a micro-chip showing ownership of the animal or for any other animal which is confined shall be \$25.00 for the first day and \$10.00 for each day thereafter.

(2) The fee for redeeming any dog or cat which is confined and which has not been previously implanted with a micro-chip showing ownership, shall be \$50.00 for the first day of impoundment and \$10.00 for each day thereafter. The first day's charge shall include the impounding fee and the implant of a micro-chip which will show the name and address of the owner for ease in future identification. After implant, the owners of such dog shall receive a current year's dog tag at no cost and the fine for any ticket issued for a first offense of running at large to a dog or cat owner shall be waived. As a condition of release, any redeemed dog, which is not inoculated against rabies, shall be inoculated by a veterinarian at the owner's expense.

(C) The Chief of Police or his/her designee shall cause any animal captured pursuant to Subsection (A) of this Section to be confined in such a manner as to remain under the control of the Chief of Police or his/her designee for a period of not less than two (2) days from the date of capture, unless redeemed by the animal's owner. Animals not redeemed by their owner at the end of two (2) days shall be transferred to the DuPage County Animal Control Department, where said animal shall be disposed of in accordance with the rules and regulations of that office.

(Ord. 3570, passed 6/25/92, Ord. 4181, passed 7/18/96; Ord. 6134, passed 12/6/07))

DOGS

§ 90.12 VICIOUS ANIMALS: IMPOUNDMENT AND WHERE INCAPABLE OF IMPOUNDMENT.

Vicious Animals: Impoundment And Where Incapable Of Impoundment. If any vicious animal, including a vicious dog, cannot be safely taken and impounded when necessary for the protection of any person or property, such animal may be slain by a police officer or person authorized by the Village; provided, however, that in all cases where any animal so slain has bitten any person or caused an abrasion to the skin of such person, no injury shall be done to the head of the animal and it shall be the duty of the person slaying the animal to immediately deliver the carcass to a veterinarian to prepare the head and brain for delivery to the DuPage County Animal Control Department.

(Ord. 6134, passed 12/6/07)

§ 90.13 TAX AND REGISTRATION.

Every owner, possessor, or person who keeps or harbors any dog within the limits of the village shall, on or before the first day of May in each year pay to the office of the Village Treasurer for the use of the village the sum of \$5 for every dog owned or possessed by such person. Such owner or possessor shall also obtain from the office of the Village Treasurer the metal tag hereinafter mentioned. Each license issued by the terms of this section shall expire on the 30th day of April next following its issuance.

(*70 Code, § 8.08.010) (Ord. 318, passed 6-1-31; Am. Ord. 1392, passed 6-3-68; Am. Ord. 1818, passed 8-8-74; Am. Ord. 2851, passed 5-22-86, Ord. 5248 passed 2/20/03)

§ 90.14 METAL TAGS.

The office of the Village Clerk shall provide each and every year such metal tags as may be necessary, or such size and shape as he shall deem expedient (the shape to be changed each year), having stamped thereon numbers indicating the year of which the tax is paid, and the letters "L.D.T.", and it shall be the duty of the Village Clerk to deliver one of such metallic plates to the person so paying a tax upon any such dog. No metal tag shall be issued to the person paying the tax upon any dog unless the requirements of § 90.19 have first been met.

(*70 Code, §8.08.020; Ord. 6134, passed 12/6/07)

§ 90.15 LEASH REQUIREMENTS.

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons owning, controlling, possessing or having the management or care, in whole or in part, of any dog to permit the same to run at large, unless such dog is securely tied by a leash, so as to effectively prevent such dog from biting, molesting, being with, or approaching any person or animal.

(Ord. 3570, passed 6/25/92; Ord. 6134, passed 12/6/07)

§ 90.16 REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF EXCRETA.

(A) Every dog owner shall be responsible for the removal and sanitary disposal of any excreta deposited by his dog. When accompanying the animal outside his premises he shall have on his person the suitable means for the removal of such excreta.

(B) It is unlawful for any person to cause or permit body wastes from fowl or animals to lay in the open upon any premises when the same may or does give off objectionable odors.

(*70 Code, §8.08.055) (Ord. 1986, passed 8-12-76, Ord. 4148, passed 4/11/96)

§90.17 LOUD FREQUENT NOISES DECLARED A NUISANCE.

(A) It is hereby declared a nuisance for any person to keep, or permit to be kept or maintained upon any premises within the Village, any dog, cat, or other animal or fowl emitting loud, frequent, and continuous noises offensive to a reasonable person of normal sensitiveness, such that the Village receives from two (2) or more separate residences located within two hundred (200') feet of the residence or location of the offending animal, written, signed complaints of an offense occurring within a single twenty-four (24) hour period. The signature on a written complaint shall constitute agreement on the part of the signer to appear in court on behalf of the Village as a witness to the facts in the complaint.

(B) It shall be the duty of the Chief of Police or his/her designee, upon finding any dog, cat, or other animal or fowl disturbing the peace of others by emitting loud, frequent, and continuous noises offensive to a reasonable person of normal sensitiveness, to advise the owner of the such animal or fowl, or the person in charge or control of the property where such animal or fowl is kept, to exercise proper control and care of such animal or fowl to prevent it from disturbing the peace of others in such manner. If such owner or person refuses to cooperate with the Chief of Police or his/her designee, or his unable to prevent such animal or fowl from disturbing the peace of others in such manner. The Chief of Police or his/her designee shall be authorized to immediately issue a citation to such owner or person for the creation of a nuisance notwithstanding the two (2) complaint requirement of subsection "A" above. If the Chief of Police or his/her designee is unable to locate any person on the property where such animal or fowl is kept, it shall be

the duty of the Chief of Police or his/her designee to take such animal or fowl into possession. The confinement and redemption provisions of Sections 90.11 and 90.12 of this chapter shall be applicable to and followed by the Chief of Police or his/her designee upon taking any animal or fowl into possession under this section.

(Ord. 3943, passed 12/15/94; Ord. 6134, passed 12/6/07)

Rabies Inoculation

§ 90.18 INOCULATION REQUIRED.

Every owner or keeper of any dog within the limits of the village shall cause such dog to be inoculated by a licensed veterinarian within 12 months of each annual licensing period which begins on June 1.

('70 Code, §8.12.020) (Ord. 826, passed 5-25-59)

§ 90.19 LICENSING REQUIREMENT.

No dog shall be registered or licensed under §90.13 unless a certificate of a veterinarian certifying to the fact and date of inoculation of such dog shall be filed with or exhibited to the Village Clerk, showing inoculation to have been made.

('70 Code, §8.12.030) (Ord. 826, passed 5-25-59; Ord. 6134, passed 12/6/07)