

ORDINANCE NO. 95

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 13, CHAPTER 13.04 ANIMAL CONTROL OF THE BETHEL CODE OF ORDINANCES AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 49.

13.04.010 Definitions

(A) Animal

All domestic or domesticated members of the animal kingdom, classes Mamalia and Aves.

(B) Animal Control Agent

A salaried City Employee under the direction of the City Manager who shall be responsible for the licensing of dogs, rabies control, investigation of animal bites, complaints, maintaining the animal control program and the city animal impoundment center, and the destruction and disposal of viscious or unwanted animals.

(C) Impoundment Center

A City maintained impoundment with pens for dogs and other animals.

(D) Dog

Means any member of the mammalia family Canidae commonly called dogs, but not a fox, wolf or other game species the talking of which is regulated by the State, except that any game species kept as a pet under a valid state permit shall be treated in like manner as a common dog.

13.04.020 Securing Dogs

All dogs allowed outside the confines of their owners or keepers homes or property and not under the direct physical control or command of their owner or keeper shall be securely restrained by means of a chain, harness, or leash. (Ordinance No. 49).

13.04.030 Where Restrained

All dogs shall be restrained at a safe distance from public streets, public walkways, public paths and playground areas. (Ordinance No. 49).

13.04.040 Unidentified Dogs

Any loose dogs or other animals in the City of Bethel without a "City of Bethel License Tag" wandering at large may be impounded or destroyed by the Animal Control Agent. (Ordinance No. 49).

13.04.050 Identified Loose Dogs

Any loose dog or other animal within the City of Bethel with the "City of Bethel License Tag" displayed on its collar, wandering at large, may be impounded and held in impoundment subject to fees paid by the owner or keeper for such impoundment and care as provided at the City Dog Pound. (Ordinance No. 49).

13.04.060 City Dog Pound

The City of Bethel shall maintain a City Dog Pound under the direction of the Chief City Manager with the Animal Control Agent as his/her designee to maintain such Dog Pound in an orderly manner and sanitary manner and to provide adequate protection for such animals confined therein. (Ordinance No. 49).

13.04.070 Licensing of Dogs

(A) A City of Bethel Dog License shall be required for all dogs four months of age or older within the City of Bethel. The license shall be issued for a period of one (1) year and a valid rabies immunization tag and/or certificate is necessary before issuance of the city license. The cost of the City license shall be four (\$4.00) dollars per year for all dogs except that spayed females and neutered males shall be licensed for a fee of two (\$2.00) dollars.

(B) A City dog license kennel permit shall be made available to those dog owners and keepers who have four (4) or more dogs. The fee shall be ten (\$10.) dollars for a one year period. Each dog must have a valid rabies tag and/or certificate before a kennel permit is issued. Each dog licensed under a kennel permit shall receive a City of Bethel Dog tag and a record of the kennel permit shall be kept on file by the Animal Control Agent. Failure by the owner to maintain an orderly and sanitary kennel may result in the suspension of the kennel permit.

13.04.080 Length of Impoundment

(A) Any loose wandering unidentified dog or other animal without a City Dog License Tag which is impounded shall be held for a three (3) day period excluding Saturdays and Sundays, to allow the owner or keeper to claim such dog subject to impoundment fees levied.

(B) Any loose wandering identified dog or other animal with a City Dog License Tag which is impounded shall be held for a three (3) day period, excluding Saturdays and Sundays, after notification to such owner or keeper that the dog is impounded subject to impoundment fees levied.

(C) Any dog or other animal suspected to have rabies or that has bitten a human and has not had a rabies shot must be restrained at a safe place at the residence of the owner or keeper or impounded in the City Dog Pound subject to impoundment fees levied and shall be held, restrained and observed for a minimum ten (10) day period. (Ordinance No. 49).

13.04.090 Impoundment Fees

(A) Dogs or other animals found loose and wandering with a City Dog License Tag shall be taken to the owner or impounded at the City Dog Pound and the owner or keeper notified by phone, in person, or by letter that their dog is being held in the pound. A fee of Ten dollars (\$10.00) shall be levied per day after notification is given.

(B) Dogs or other animals found loose and wandering without a City Dog License Tag shall be impounded and an impoundment fee of Twenty-Five dollars (\$25.00) levied with Ten Dollars (\$10.00) per day thereafter.

(C) Dogs may be boarded at the City Dog Pound upon request from owners or keepers. The fee shall be Two Dollars (\$2.00) per day and food shall be provided by the owner or keeper. (Ordinance No. 49).

13.040.100 Citations

In addition to, or in lieu of, impounding animal found at large, the Animal Control Agent may issue to the known owner of such animal a citation for ordinance violation. Such notice shall impose upon the owner a penalty of \$15. to be paid to the City of Bethel within seventy-two hours in full satisfaction of the assessed penalty. In the event that such penalty is not paid within the time period prescribed, a criminal warrant shall be initiated before a Judge or Magistrate and upon conviction of a violation of this Ordinance, the owner shall be punished as provided in No. 13.04.130 of this Ordinance.

13.04.110 Disposition of Impounded Dogs

(A) Unidentified dogs or other animals without City Dog License tags shall be held for a three (3) day period for claiming and not be disposed of until the fifth (5th) day subject to impoundment fees. If not claimed by the fifth (5th) day, the dog shall become the property of the City of Bethel and may be sold, given away, or destroyed at the discretion of the Animal Control Agent. All dogs sold, given away, bought at the pound, not vaccinated for rabies must receive a rabies shot and City Dog License payable by the claimant, owner, or new owner before the dog is released from the pound.

(B) Identified Dogs: All identified dogs with City Dog License Tags not claimed by the owner or keeper by the fifth (5th) day after receiving notification that their dog was impounded, shall become the property of the City of Bethel and may be sold, given away, or disposed of at the discretion of the Dog Control Agent.

(C) Unwanted or abandoned dogs and animals brought to the pound by citizens for impoundment shall become the property of the City of Bethel and may be sold, given away or disposed of at the discretion of the Dog Control Agent.

(D) In computing the above time periods, Saturdays and Sundays shall be excluded.

13.04.120 Rabies Control

(A) The City of Bethel Animal Control Agent under the direction of the City Manager shall cooperate with other agencies in establishing a Rabies Control Program for the City of Bethel, Alaska.

(B) A dog or other animal suspected of having rabies shall be impounded at the City Dog Pound or at a safe place by the owner or keeper of the dog and observed for a ten (10) day period by the Animal Control Agent. An owner or keeper of a dog having bitten a human and being impounded to observe for rabies must bear the expense of boarding a dog stated in Section 13.04.090 (C).

(C) Any animal suspected of rabies and loose, running at large uncontrolled and evading attempts to be caught shall be shot and the head sent to the Artic Health Laboratory for examination of rabies disease.

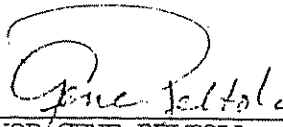
13.04.130 Penalties

(A) Any person who fails to comply with the provisions of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be subject to a fine of not more than fifty (\$50) dollars.

(B) It shall be a violation for any person or persons to open a vehicle being used to transport dogs or other animals to the City Dog Pound or the doors of the City Dog Pound with the intent of allowing impounded dogs or other animals to escape. such persons or persons upon convictions shall be subject to the penalty established in Section 8.44.010.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 22th day of July, 1977.

APPROVED:



MAYOR/ GENE PELTOLA

ATTEST:



Jean Hill - City Clerk