

ORDINANCE NO. B-541

CATS

Section 1. REGISTRATION AND VACCINATION REQUIRED; FEE.

(a) Every owner of any cat over six months of age shall annually register with the City Clerk his or her name and address with the name, sex and description of each cat owned and kept within the City. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any newly acquired cat or any cat brought into the City to fail to register such animal within 30 days from acquisition or bringing the cat into the City. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any previously registered cat to fail to maintain current registration of such cat.

(b) Upon registration, the owner shall present a current, completed certificate of immunization against rabies. No registration shall follow without evidence of this document, and it shall be unlawful for the owner of any cat over six months of age to fail to maintain effective rabies immunization of such cat.

(c) The owner or harborer of any cat shall, at the time of registering such cat, present to the City Clerk a certificate from an accredited veterinarian showing that a male cat has been neutered or a female cat has been spayed, if the cat has been neutered or spayed.

(d) The city Clerk shall collect an annual registration fee of \$2.00 for each neutered male cat and for each spayed female cat, and \$5.00 for each unneutered male cat and for each unspayed female cat.

(e) The registration year shall be from January 1st through December 31st of each year. The fee shall be payable before March 1st of each year without penalty.

Registration fees as enumerated above may be prorated for newly acquired cats or for cats owned by a person or persons moving to and establishing a home in the City during a calendar year. Every owner or harborer of a cat or cats who shall fail to register the same prior to the 1st day of March of each year shall pay in addition to the registration fee herein provided a penalty fee for late registration of \$1.00 per month.

Section 2. CAT TAGS. It shall be the duty of the City Clerk or designated agent, upon a showing of current rabies immunization and receipt of the registration fee hereinbefore required, to keep in a book suitable for the registration of cats, the time of the registration, the name of the owner or keeper, the number of the registration and the amount paid therefor, and shall deliver to the owner or keeper of the cat a certificate in writing, stating that the person has registered the cat and the number by which the cat is registered, and shall also deliver to the owner or keeper of the cat a tag with the registration number and the registration year thereon, which shall be, by the owner or keeper, attached to the collar to be used on the cat so registered. When any tag has become lost during a registration period, the owner of the cat may request a duplicate tag for the remainder of the registration period. When so requested, the City Clerk shall, upon presentation of the registration certificate, issue a duplicate of such tag upon the payment of \$1.00 fee. It shall be unlawful for any person to take off or remove the city registration tag from any cat belonging to another, or remove the strap or collar on which the same is fastened.

Section 3. SAME; COUNTERFEIT TAG. It shall be unlawful for any person to place on any cat a tag issued for any other cat or to make or use any false, forged or counterfeited tag or imitation thereof.

Section 4. EVIDENCE OF VACCINATION. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any cat kept within the City to fail to display a current certificate of immunization against rabies issued by an accredited veterinarian evidencing the vaccination of such cat within two years, when requested by the animal control officer or any law enforcement officer.

Section 5. VISITING CATS. The provisions of this article with respect to registration shall not apply to any cat owned by any person visiting or temporarily remaining within the City for less than 30 days. However, such cats shall be kept under restraint by the owner thereof at all times.

Section 6. RUNNING AT LARGE; FINE.

(a) It shall be unlawful for the owner or harbinger of any cat to permit such cat to run at large within the City at any time.

(d) If at any time before the sale or destruction of any cat impounded under the provisions of this article, the owner of an impounded cat does appear and redeem the cat, it shall be turned over to the person claiming it upon payment of any impoundment fees or penalties plus the actual costs of impoundment, and shall not apply to any cat suspected of rabies under Section 1(b).

(e) The minimum impoundment fee shall be \$15.00.

(f) Any cat impounded may not be released without a current rabies vaccination.

(g) Impoundment hereunder shall not preclude any court from imposing and executing any fine which might otherwise be levied under this article for violation of any of the provisions thereof; nor shall impoundment be a defense in any prosecution commenced hereunder.

(h) The redemption of any cat impounded for a violation of any provision shall be prima facie evidence of the violation of such provision by the person redeeming the cat.

Section 8. DISPOSITION OF UNCLAIMED CATS.

(a) If any cat is not redeemed by its owner or harborer within the time allowed for redemption as specified in Section 7 thereof, the animal control officer, any authorized law enforcement officer, any authorized veterinarian or any duly authorized pound personnel may destroy such cat or sell the same for the costs of impoundment and keeping, plus any registration fee due for the current year.

(b) No cat may be transferred to the permanent custody of a prospective owner unless: (1) such cat has been surgically spayed or neutered before the physical transfer of the cat occurs; (2) the prospective owner signs an agreement to have the cat spayed or neutered and deposits with the City not less than the lowest nor more than the highest cost of spaying or neutering in the community as determined by the City; or (3) a prospective owner may not adopt more than three cats over a five year period. Any funds deposited pursuant to such an agreement shall be refunded to such person upon presentation of a written statement signed by a licensed veterinarian that the cat has been spayed or neutered. If such person does not reclaim the deposit within six months after receiving custody

(b) Any cat running at large within the City shall be impounded as set out in Section 7;

(c) The owner of any cat impounded for running at large without the tag required by Section 2 shall, for the first offense, pay a fine of \$25.00 plus the board bill and transport fee of \$20.00;

(d) For the first offense of an animal running at large with a tag as required by Section 2, the owner or harborer claiming any animal, shall, in addition to presenting a registration receipt, pay the cost of the board bill. For a second offense within a one year period, the owner or harborer shall pay a fine of \$50.00 plus the board bill and transport fee of \$20.00. For a third and all subsequent offenses within a one year period, the owner or harborer shall pay a fine of \$75.00 plus the cost of the board bill and transport fee of \$20.00.

Section 7. IMPOUNDMENT; RECORD; NOTICE; REDEMPTION; MINIMUM FEE.

(a) Any cat found in violation of the provisions of this article shall be subject to impoundment by the City.

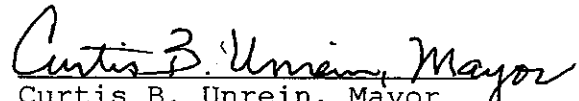
(b) A record of all cats impounded shall be kept by the City containing the following information: color, sex, weight, height, identifying marks, registration number (if any) and the date of impoundment.

(c) No cat impounded shall be disposed of until after expiration of a minimum of three full business days of custody during which the public has clear access to inspect and recover the cat through time periods ordinarily accepted as usual business hours. During such time of custody, the City shall attempt to notify the owner or custodian of any cat impounded by such facility if the owner or custodian is known or reasonably ascertainable. Such cat may at any time be released to the legal owner, moved to a veterinary hospital for treatment or observation, released in any manner, if such cat was a gift to the animal shelter, or euthanized by a licensed veterinarian if it appears to the veterinarian that the cat is diseased or disabled beyond recovery. If within three full business days the owner does not appear to claim the cat, then the cat may be sold, euthanized or otherwise disposed of.

of the cat, the City shall keep the deposit and may reclaim the unspayed or unneutered cat.

(c) Nothing shall be construed to require sterilization of a cat which is being held by the City and which may be claimed by its rightful owner within the holding period established in Section 7.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL this 19th day of January, 2015.


Curtis B. Unrein, Mayor

ATTEST:


Mary Pfeifer, City Clerk