



Town of Sterling
Office of the Town Clerk
One Park St, Butterick Municipal Bldg.
Sterling, Massachusetts 01564
Tel 978-422-8111 ext 2307 or 2308

EXCERPT OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD
MONDAY, May 1, 2023
Chocksett Middle School 40 Boutelle Road

ARTICLE 38. CHAPTER 18 ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAWS

To see if the Town will vote to amend § 18-6 of the Town’s General Bylaws, Animal Control, Owner Responsibility, relative to Enforcement, with deletions shown in ~~striketrough~~ and additions show in **bold/underline**, to include the addition of penalties for violations of MGL c140 s174F: “Confinement of animal in a motor vehicle causing exposure to extreme heat or cold; protection of animal by animal control or law enforcement office or fire fighters; penalties”, or take any action in relation thereto.

§ 18-6 Owner Responsibility.

F. Enforcement; penalties for violation.

(2) In addition to the remedies set forth in this bylaw and in MGL c. 140, §§ 136A to ~~174E~~ **174F**, inclusive, including but not limited to MGL c. 140 § 157A, or any other applicable provision of law, this section may be enforced through any lawful means in law or in equity, including, but not limited to, noncriminal disposition pursuant to MGL c. 40, § 21D. If noncriminal disposition is elected, then any person who violations any provision of this section shall be subject to the following penalties for offenses for which no specific penalty is prescribed elsewhere in this bylaw:

Passage requires majority vote

Motion made that the Town vote to amend §18-6 of the Town’s General Bylaws, Animal Control, Owner Responsibility, as presented in Article 38 of the Warrant.

Summary: The purpose of this article is to include the newest addition of Massachusetts Animal Control Laws, MGL c140 s174F to Sterling’s Animal Control Bylaws to ensure the protection of animals by Animal Control, Law Enforcement Officers, and Firefighters when an animal is found inside an excessively hot or cold vehicle and to allow Animal Control to enforce penalties for this offense.

Motion passed by majority as declared by the Moderator

A True Copy Attest: _____
Kathleen K. Farrell, Town Clerk