

**AN ORDINANCE
AMENDING THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF OZARK, MISSOURI,
SECTION 210.080 DOG BITES, REGARDING HOLDING DOGS AT THE ANIMAL
CONTROL FACILITY FOR OBSERVATION**

WHEREAS, the City of Ozark, Missouri (City) Police Department oversees the City’s Animal Control Facility; and

WHEREAS, City Police Department wishes to amend the law to allow the City to hold a dog at the City’s Animal Control Facility during the ten day observation period after a dog bite.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF OZARK, MISSOURI, as follows, that:

NOTE: Language to be added is underlined. Language to be deleted is ~~stricken~~.

SECTION 1 – The Municipal Code of the City of Ozark, Missouri, Chapter 210 Animal Regulations, Section 210.080 Dog bites, is hereby amended as follows:

Section 210.080 Dog Bites.

The owners of any dog which bites any person is guilty of a violation of this Section, unless the dog is provoked or bites another person in its own household in the defense of a person in the household or property therein from another person attempting to commit a violation of the law in or upon the household, regardless of the circumstances, and whether the dog has been vaccinated or not. The owners of the dog shall be required to place the animal in a veterinary hospital maintained by a licensed veterinarian for clinical observation for a period of at least ten (10) days following the evening of the day of the bite. Any dog impounded in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter, which has bitten a person, may be placed in such veterinary hospital by a representative of the City. If suitable impoundment at a veterinary hospital is not available, the animal may be placed in a city-approved facility with a licensed veterinarian providing regular visits for clinical observation. All expenses for such placement and observation shall be borne by the owner of the dog or the person accepting such dog if released in accordance with the provisions hereof. If such animal develops symptoms suggestive of rabies, it shall be allowed to die a natural death or, if the animal shall die while in confinement for any reason, the head of such animal shall be removed by the veterinarian and submitted to any qualified official laboratory. If at the end of the ten (10) day period the animal is alive and has developed no symptoms suggestive of rabies, it may be released to its owner or other person in accordance with the other provisions of this Chapter, upon payment of all charges authorized herein for impounding and caring for said dog, in addition to all charges for the placement and observation of said dog in the veterinary hospital. No such dog shall be released until all conditions of this Chapter have been complied with, including rabies vaccination paid for by the owner or person accepting such dog, and the attachment of an identification tag to the dog.

SECTION 2 – Severability Clause. If any section, subsection sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The Board of Aldermen hereby declares that it would have adopted the Ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, or phrases be declared invalid.

SECTION 3 – This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED AT MEETING ON OCTOBER 2, 2023.

	AYE	NAY	ABSENT/ABSTAIN
ALDERMAN DREW OWEN			X
ALDERMAN HEATHER ALDER	X		
ALDERMAN JEAN ANN HUTCHINSON	X		
ALDERMAN DAVID SNIDER	X		
ALDERMAN BRUCE GALLOWAY	X		
ALDERMAN RJ FLORES	X		

APPROVED ON OCTOBER 2, 2023.

DON CURRENCE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CHANDRA HODGES, CITY CLERK