FILE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POTTSVILLE, PA

Ordinance Number 920 First Reading – 5/13/2024
Bill Number 2/2024

Introduced by Councilman Messaros

Enacted by Council June 10, 2024

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF POTTSVILLE – CHAPTER 87 ANIMALS; BY STRIKING THE ENTIRE CHAPTER AND REPLACING IT THE FOLLOWING:

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POTTSVILLE DOES HEREBY ORDAIN THAT:

§ 87-1**Definitions.**

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

ANIMAL

All nonhuman vertebrate and invertebrate species, whether wild or domestic, commonly considered to be part of the animal kingdom.

ANIMAL HOUSING

Any property, premises or place where animals are located, but not a place that is defined as a kennel. Animal housing may have no more than four animals.

AT LARGE

An animal off the premises of the owner, not secured by a leash or lead or under the control of a responsible person and obedient to that person's commands.

Breeding

The mating and production of offspring by animals.

CITY

The City of Pottsville, Pennsylvania.

CITY OFFICIAL

That person or persons designated by the Mayor to enforce the provisions of this chapter. Included in this definition are the Animal Control Officer, all other police officers who shall have the same power to act as the Animal Control Officer and representatives of the Health Bureau.

GUARD OR SENTRY DOG

A dog which has been trained or conditioned to attack only to protect persons or property.

HOBBY BREEDER

Any person who places together dogs or cats for the purposes of breeding and sells, trades or otherwise transfers the product of such breeding, provided that:

A.

Such breeding, selling, trading or transfer is conducted by the person at the person's residence and/or property.

B.

Such breeding does not take place more frequently than once per annum; and **C.**

The person is not regularly engaged in the business of breeding, selling or trading dogs or cats.

KENNEL

Any property, premises, place or commercial establishment in or at which dogs and/or cats are kept under the following condition: more than a total of four dogs and/or cats more than six months of age that are kept for the purpose of sale or rental or in connection with the boarding, care, grooming, breeding or the training of dogs for guard or sentry purposes for which any fee is charged. This provision is not intended to apply to hobby breeders.

KENNEL OWNERS

Any person, firm, partnership or corporation who owns or operates a kennel.

OWNER

When applied to the proprietorship of an animal, includes every person having a right of property in such animal, and every person who keeps or harbors such animal or has it in his care, and every person who permits such animal to remain on or about any premises occupied by him, which is kept, harbored or cared for within the City of Pottsville for a period of three or more days, as well as every person, firm or corporation occupying any premises within the City which permits any animal to remain on or about its premises for a period of three or more days.

Outdoor Animal

Any animal that exists outside of a domestic home, or currently occupied building. Including all animals know to be owned and given outdoor privileges by their owner.

PET SHOP

Any property, premises, place, commercial establishment or person that buys for resale and sells dogs, cats, birds, fish or other animals to the general public on a retail basis. This excludes people making a sale or trade of any such animal from their residence and/or property when not regularly engaged in the business of selling or trading animals.

RESIDENTIAL AREA

Any area of the City where the predominant land use is the residential dwelling use of human beings.

USE OF GUARD OR SENTRY DOGS

Dogs kept at a place, property or premises for the purpose of protecting the premises.

VETERINARIAN

A graduate of a recognized school of veterinary medicine licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

VICIOUS ANIMAL

Any animal which has attacked without cause a human being or domestic animal in such a manner as to inflict physical damage on the human being or domestic animal or has caused property damage.

WILD OR EXOTIC ANIMAL

Any animal of a species prohibited by Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, or otherwise controlled by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. It shall include any animal which is wild, fierce, dangerous, noxious or naturally inclined to do harm. "Wild animals," however domesticated, shall also include but not be limited to:

Α.

Dog family (Canidae): all except domesticated dogs, including wolf, fox, coyote, dingo, etc.:

B.

Cat family (Felidae): all except commonly accepted domestic cats, including lions, pumas, panthers, mountain lions, leopards, jaguars, ocelots, margays, tigers, wild cats, etc.

C.

Bears (Ursidae): all bears, including weasels, martens, mink, wolverine, ferrets, badgers, otters, ermine, mongoose, etc.

D.

Raccoons (Procyonidae): all raccoons and civets.

E.

Primates (Hominidae): all subhuman primates.

F

Porcupine (Erethizontid): all porcupines.

G

Skunks.

H.

Snakes: all venomous and constricting snakes.

I.

Venomous lizards; crocodilians: all alligators, caimans, crocodiles, gavials, etc.

<u>J.</u>

Venomous fish and piranha.

K.

Venomous invertebrates.

§ 87-2License, collar and tag required for dogs.

No person shall own, keep or harbor within the City any dog three months or older unless such animal is licensed by the Treasurer of Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, and unless such dog wears a collar and license tag. A license must always be on display on the animal when not on the owners' private property. This provision is not intended to apply to dogs whose owners are nonresidents and temporarily in the City nor to any Seeing Eye dog or hearing dog properly trained to assist blind persons or hearing-impaired persons when such dog is used by a blind person or hearing-impaired person for the purpose of going from place to place.

§ 87-3Vaccination of dogs and cats against rables required.

It shall be unlawful for the owner or custodian of a dog or cat to keep, harbor or have in his custody or control a dog or cat three months or older for longer than 14 days, unless such dog or cat has been vaccinated with a modified live virus (Flury strain) or an acceptable inactivated rabies vaccine approved by the State Department of Health within a period of 36 months or vaccinated within a period of 12 months with a standard rabies vaccine approved by the State Department of Health.

Α.

An animal owner must be able to provide proof of vaccination within 48 hours to any police officer, state dog warden, department official or designated municipal animal control officer who requests proof.

§ 87-4Prohibited acts; cleanup of nuisances.

<u>A.</u>

Permitting animals to trespass. The owner, possessor or manager of any animal shall not permit the same to trespass upon the premises of another property owner without prior permission or he shall be in violation of this chapter and shall have the burden of proving permission to trespass was granted.

<u>B.</u>

At large animals prohibited.

(1)

No animal shall run at large in the City. Any person who is the owner or custodian of an animal found at large in the City shall be in violation of this chapter. It shall be unlawful for any owner of an animal to place such animal or allow it to be placed in the custody of any other person not physically capable of maintaining effective control of such animal. This section shall not apply to any person who uses an animal while engaged in a

supervised formal obedience training class of show or during formally sanctioned field trials.

(2)

No dogs shall be allowed in City parks except at places designated by the Superintendent of Parks, and provided that said dogs shall not be at large.

(3)

It shall be the duty of the City official to seize and detain any animal, licensed or unlicensed, found running at large, either upon the public streets or highways of the City or on the property of any other person and unaccompanied by its owner or keeper. The City official is hereby authorized and empowered to go on any public premises and to enter any public building to seize and detain any animal which has been running at large unaccompanied by an owner or keeper when such City official is in immediate pursuit of such animal.

C.

Cleanup of animal fecal matter.

(1)

No owner of any animal or any person having the care, custody and control of any animal shall permit the same to discharge or deposit any fecal matter upon the property of another without immediately removing such matter and disposing of it in a sanitary manner.

The term "property of another" shall be interpreted to include the property of the City of Pottsville or of any other political subdivision.

<u>(2)</u>

No owner or possessor of real property shall permit animal fecal matter to accumulate on such property for more than 24 hours, and it shall be the owner's or possessor's responsibility to daily remove such matter to prevent any such accumulation from becoming a danger to public health.

<u>(3)</u>

Any dog which serves as a service dog shall be exempt from the provisions of this section while such dog is accompanying a disabled person.

<u>D.</u>

Stray/ at large and or outdoor animals:

(1.)

Any persons in the City of Pottsville shall not feed, put out shelter, and/ or interact with all outdoor animals, wildlife, suspected strays, etc. Unless working with a licensed animal rescue, state regulatory commission, or city official. Exemption for birdhouses in proper repair and using adequate materials for its suspension or foundation.

(2.)

Anyone who must detain a stray/ at large animal shall call a humane officer, animal control officer, police officer, Dog warden, or state approved animal shelter immediately after detaining the animal.

(3.)

It is against City ordinance for a person to detain any animal known to be owned by another person for any reason.

§ 87-5Vicious and destructive animals.

<u>A.</u>

Any person who keeps within the City an animal which is known by such person to be vicious shall ensure that adequate protective devices are provided to prevent the animal from escaping or injuring the public.

<u>B.</u>

An actual attack by such vicious animal upon any person conducting himself in a lawful manner at the time of such attack, whether such attack occurs on or off the property of the owner or custodian of such animal, shall be deemed prima facie evidence that there were not adequate preventive provisions made and therefore constitutes a violation of this chapter and requires the surrender of the animal to the City official.

<u>C.</u>

Any animal known to be vicious and found running at large which cannot be safely taken up and impounded may be slain by any police officer.

§ 87-6Impoundment; large animals.

Α.

It shall be the duty of the City official charged with the enforcement of this chapter to impound any dog found at large and not confined to the dog owner's premises. If the owner or custodian of the animal can be ascertained and located, a summons may be issued and the animal may, in lieu of impoundment, be released to its owner or custodian. However, within 72 hours of the animal's release, the owner must present the City official with a valid rabies certificate or surrender the animal to the City official.

В.

Should it be necessary for a City official to seize or pick up a large animal, such as a horse, cow or mule, or any other animal not acceptable to an animal shelter or animal hospital, he is hereby empowered to have such animal removed by a trucking firm at the animal owner's expense to a farm or stable where such animal can be housed. If no such place exists within the City, such animals may be taken outside the City limits.

§ 87-7Animal bites and rabid animals.

<u>A.</u>

Person bitten by animals. It shall be the duty of any person who has knowledge that an animal has bitten or injured any person in this municipality to immediately report the facts of the incident and the whereabouts of such animal to the Bureau of Health, City of Pottsville.

(1)

The owner of every such animal shall immediately place said animal in confinement in such a manner as to prevent it from escaping, running at large or having physical contact with other animals or humans other than the animal owner or controller and maintain such confinement for a ten-day period of observation.

(2)

At the end of said ten-day observation period, the animal shall be examined by a veterinarian employed by the owner, and a written report of the results of such examination shall be submitted by the owner or veterinarian within 24 hours to the

Bureau of Health. If the report reveals no symptoms of rabies, the animal may then be released.

(3)

If at any time during said ten-day period of observation the animal develops symptoms indicative of rabies, such fact shall be communicated at once to the Bureau of Health and the animal shall immediately be removed to a veterinary hospital acceptable to the Bureau of Health.

(4)

If the animal is diagnosed as rabid, it shall be humanely euthanized. Confirmatory tests for the presence of rabies shall be conducted on the animal's remains as necessary. After such testing, the remains of the animal shall be disposed of in such manner as the Bureau of Health directs.

(5)

If the animal is a stray that cannot be identified, it shall be the duty of the City official charged with the enforcement of this chapter to impound such animal and place it in confinement for observation, examination or other necessary action normally required of a private animal owner as specified in § 87-1.

(6)

It shall be the duty of the Bureau of Health of the City of Pottsville to notify the victim of an animal bite of the results of the ten-day observation period and veterinary examination of the biting animal, in writing, following the receipt of reports of those results.

B.

Animal bitten by an animal suspected of rabies. It shall be the duty of any person who has knowledge that an animal in this municipality has been bitten or otherwise injured by or been exposed to or been in contact with an animal infected with or suspected of being infected with rabies to immediately report the facts and the whereabouts of such animals to the Bureau of Health.

C.

Animals infected with rabies. It shall be the duty of any person who has knowledge that an animal in this municipality is infected with or suspected of being infected with rabies to immediately report the facts and the whereabouts of such animal to the Bureau of Health. Any animal suspected of being infected with rabies shall immediately be removed to and confined in a veterinary hospital acceptable to the Bureau of Health, and such animal shall not be released therefrom without permission of the Bureau of Health. Any animal infected with rabies shall be disposed of in such a manner as the Bureau of Health may direct.

D.

Animals dying of rabies. Any person killing an animal that is rabid or suspected of being rabid or any person having knowledge that an animal had died of rabies or is suspected of having died of rabies shall report the facts and the whereabouts of the animal to the Bureau of Health, which will determine the disposition of the animal's remains.

§ 87-8Reclaiming seized animals; fees; disposition of unclaimed animals.

A.

Notice. The City official who has seized an animal under the provisions of this chapter shall see that the same is properly kept and fed, and if ownership of such animal can be ascertained, the City official shall immediately give notice of such seizure by registered mail to the owner of said animal to claim such animal within one week from the receipt of the notice. If the owner fails to respond by the end of the seven days the City may rehome the animal; additionally, any costs will be levied to the owner.

B.

Reclaiming. The owner of the animal so seized and detained may reclaim the same by:

(1)

Paying all expense(s) incurred in feeding and boarding the animal at a prevailing rate established by the Humane Society or other similar organization at which the animal is detained.

(2)

Paying an impoundment fee of \$50 per day plus any extra costs incurred for the animals' well-being; transportation and costs of any and all veterinary, shelter, SPCA, or any entities used in assisting in the care and or placement of said animal claimed or unclaimed by the owner.

(3)

Paying any fines levied due to the violation of this chapter.

(4)

Providing proof of compliance with §§ 87-2 and 87-3 of this chapter.

C.

Disposition. Any animal seized and detained by the City official which has not been claimed by its owner can be given to the Humane Society or another similar organization or adopted out, and/or destroyed by such City official in a humane manner. Animals held by the city for 7 days or more can and or will be made available for adoption. Solicitation for adoption will begin after 4 Days of being held by the city.

§ 87-9Summary destruction of animals for humane reasons.

When, in the judgment of the City official, it is determined at the scene of an accident that an animal is injured beyond any medical help, such animal may be humanely destroyed.

§ 87-10Slaughtering of animals.

The slaughtering, killing or dressing of animals such as but not limited to cattle, sheep, swine, goats, horses, rabbits or poultry shall not be allowed in the City except at places authorized by state or federal government agencies. This provision is not intended to apply to wild animals or fishes taken in conformance with applicable game and/or fish laws.

§ 87-11Burial or cremation of dead animals and fowl.

The owner of any animal or fowl which has died, when said owner knows of such death, shall forthwith have its body cremated or buried or otherwise disposed of in a manner acceptable to the City official. Should the owner of any dead animal or dead fowl fail to

comply with the provisions of this chapter and after 48 hours of written notice delivered to such owner by the City official, said City official shall be authorized to cause any dead animal or fowl to be cremated or buried at the expense of said owner.

§ 87-12Kennels and pet shops.

A.

Location. Kennels and pet shops shall not be permitted in residential areas as defined in Chapter <u>220</u>, Zoning. Kennels and pet shops shall be permitted in other zones of the City as defined in Chapter <u>220</u>, Zoning, so long as they meet all those zones' requirements. This section shall not relieve any person from meeting the requirements of Chapter <u>220</u>, Zoning.

<u>B.</u>

Minimum standards.

(1)

Feeding. All kennel and pet shop animals shall be provided with sufficient, wholesome food and water which is free from contamination. Such food and water shall be of sufficient quantity and nutritive value to meet the normal daily requirements for the condition and size of each animal and to assure the proper health of each animal.

(2)

Health of animals.

(a)

All kennel and pet shop animals shall always have fresh water available. Water vessels shall be of the removable type and shall be mounted or secured in a manner that prevents tipping.

(b)

Sick or diseased animals in a kennel or pet shop shall be properly always cared for and isolated from any healthy animal kept in a kennel or pet shop and shall not knowingly be sold while sick or diseased and shall be kept segregated so as to prevent the illness or disease from being transmitted to any other animal or individual.

(c)

No condition shall be maintained or permitted to exist that is knowingly injurious to the health of any animal.

(d)

Adequate exercise shall be provided to assure the good health of each animal.

<u>(e)</u>

All kennel and pet shop animals shall be segregated on basis of size and sex except in the case of immature animals or in the case of animals deliberately placed together for breeding purposes.

(3)

Buildings and enclosures of kennels and pet shops.

<u>(a)</u>

All kennel and pet shop buildings and enclosures shall provide adequate protection against weather extremes for each animal. The floors and walls of all such enclosures and buildings and the runs shall be of surface material to permit proper cleaning and disinfecting. Building temperatures shall be maintained at a temperature comfortable for each animal. Each such building shall provide adequate ventilation for each animal and

shall be kept clean, dry and in a sanitary condition with the use of a disinfectant. All animal waste and refuse must be daily removed and must be placed in tightly covered, impervious receptacles which must be removed every other day to prevent it from becoming a nuisance.

(b)

Animals shall be maintained in quarters to prevent their escape.

(4)

Cages and runs.

<u>(a)</u>

Each animal shall have sufficient space to stand up, lie down and turn around without touching the sides or top of his cage.

(b)

Cages are to be of a material and construction that allows for cleaning and sanitizing.

(c)

Cage floors of concrete shall have a resting board or other adequate bedding.

(d)

Runs shall be of sufficiently large size to provide an adequate exercise area and shall provide adequate weather protection.

C.

Compliance with minimum standards; enforcement.

(1)

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any kennel to fail to comply with any of the minimum standards set forth in this chapter.

(2)

The City official shall have the authority to inspect the premises of any kennel at a reasonable time and in a reasonable manner to assure compliance with the provisions of this chapter. When permission is refused or cannot be obtained, inspections shall be conducted upon obtaining a lawfully authorized warrant.

§ 87-13Housing of animals.

Minimum standards shall be as follows:

<u>A.</u>

Feeding. All animals shall be supplied with sufficient, wholesome food and water, free from contamination, and which food and water shall be of sufficient quantity and nutritive value to meet the normal daily requirements for the condition and size of each animal and to assure the proper health of each animal.

<u>B.</u>

Health of animals.

<u>(1)</u>

Proper shelter and protection from the weather shall be always provided to assure that no animal is overcrowded or exposed to excessive heat or cold. The proper temperature for the well-being of each animal shall be always maintained.

<u>(2)</u>

Adequate exercise shall be provided to assure the good health of each animal.

(3)

No condition shall be maintained or permitted to exist that is knowingly injurious to the health of any animal.

(4)

No person shall leave any animal in a vehicle while they are in a store, church, office, etc., and are not withing the immediate area (8 feet or less).

<u>C.</u>

Sanitation and safety.

(1)

There shall be sufficient, clean, dry bedding to meet the needs of each animal. All animals and animal quarters shall be kept in a clean and sanitary condition and adequate ventilation shall be maintained.

(2)

Animals shall be maintained in quarters so as to prevent their escape.

D.

Compliance with minimum standards.

(1)

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any animal housing to fail to comply with any of the minimum standards set forth in this chapter.

(2)

The City official shall have the authority to inspect the premises of any animal housing at a reasonable time in a reasonable manner to assure compliance with the provisions of this chapter. When permission is refused or cannot be obtained, inspections shall be conducted upon obtaining a lawfully authorized warrant.

§ 87-14Keeping of certain animals prohibited.

<u>Ă.</u>

Wild or exotic animals prohibited. No person shall keep a wild or exotic animal in any place other than a zoological park, veterinary hospital or clinic, humane society, circus, sideshow, amusement show, or facility used for educational or scientific purposes which provides proper cages, fences and other protective devices adequate to prevent such animal from escaping or injuring the public.

<u>B.</u>

Sale, adoption, exchange or transfer of wild or exotic animals prohibited. No person shall sell, offer for sale, adoption, exchange or transfer, with or without charge, any wild animal or exotic animal. This section is not intended to apply to persons owning or possessing wild or exotic animals prior to the passage of this chapter, provided that the person or persons taking possession of such wild or exotic animal following said sale, adoption, exchange or transfer is/are not a resident of the City of Pottsville.

<u>C.</u>

Keeping farm animals prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person to keep or maintain any cattle, swine, sheep, goats or fowl in the City except at such places as are provided for slaughtering or laboratory purposes.

<u>D.</u>

Disposition and impoundment. Any person who keeps a wild or exotic animal or prohibited farm animal in contravention of this chapter may dispose of the animal by

removal of the animal from the City or by giving the animal to the City official. The City official is authorized to release the animal to the wild or to a zoological park or to dispose of the animal in some humane manner.

§ 87-15Authority to promulgate rules and regulations.

The City official, with the Mayor's approval may promulgate such written rules and regulations as maybe reasonably necessary for the administration of the provisions of this chapter.

§ 87-16Interference with City officials.

Any person interfering with the Animal Control Officer, any police officer or any Health Officer in the enforcement of this chapter shall be guilty of a violation of this chapter.

§ 87-17Unlawful release of seized animal.

Any person who shall take away or attempt to take away or who shall cut the leash of any animal from the possession and custody of the Animal Control Officer, any police officer or any Health Officer of the City shall be guilty of a violation of this chapter.

§ 87-18Cruelty to animals prohibited.

Ă.

It shall be unlawful for any persons to:

(1)

Overdrive, overload, overwork, torture, beat, mutilate, kill needlessly, carry in a vehicle in an inhumane manner or otherwise mistreat any animal.

(2)

Fail to provide any pet or animal with proper food, drink, protection from the weather and veterinary care.

<u>(3)</u>

Abandon any pet or animal.

(4)

Intentionally poison any pet or animal.

<u>(5)</u>

Allow or promote any fight between animals or to allow or permit any such fight in or upon any premises in his possession or under his/her control.

<u>B.</u>

In the event that the City official or other authorized agency finds animals in neglected or suffering conditions, it shall have the right forthwith to remove or cause to be removed any such animals to a safe place for care at the owner's expense, provided that the owner is properly notified. Return to the owner shall not be permitted until the owner has made full payment for expenses incurred. Said payment shall not be considered in lieu of criminal charges which may be filed.

§ 87-19Barking or howling dogs.

No person shall keep or harbor any dog within the City which, by frequent and habitual barking, howling or yelping, creates unreasonably loud and disturbing noises of such a character, intensity and duration as to disturb the peace, guiet and good order of the

City. Any person who shall allow any dog habitually to remain, be lodged or fed within any dwelling, building, yard, or enclosure which he occupies or owns shall be considered harboring such dog.

§ 87-20Violations and penalties.

Any person, firm or corporation who or which shall fail, neglect or refuse to comply with any of the terms or provisions of this chapter or of any regulation or requirement pursuant hereto and authorized hereby shall, upon conviction thereof, be ordered to pay a fine of not more than \$600 and, in default of payment of fine and costs, be imprisoned not more than 90 days. Each day's violation shall constitute a separate offense.

§ 87-21Dangerous or vicious dogs.

Α.

Definitions.

DANGEROUS OR VICIOUS DOG

Includes any or all of the following, except police dogs or guard dogs acting under the supervision of a police officer or certified trained dog handler, or guide dogs:

(1)

Any dog which bites, inflicts injury, assaults or otherwise attacks a human being or a domestic animal without provocation; or

(2)

Any dog which, without provocation, approaches in a threatening or terrorizing manner, any person or domestic animal upon the streets, sidewalks or any public grounds or places; or

(3)

Any dog which is trained to attack or cause injury or to otherwise endanger the safety of human beings or domestic animals, or any dog which has a history of attacking or propensity to attack people or domestic animals without provocation.

В.

Responsibilities of owners of dangerous dogs.

(1)

Any person owning a vicious or dangerous dog must register the dog with the City of Pottsville Health Department and pay a fee of \$500 for such registration within 72 hours of receiving notice from the City Health Department, with an annual renewal fee of \$250.

(2)

Upon licensing a vicious or dangerous dog, the owner shall display, in a conspicuous manner, a sign on his or her premises warning that there is a vicious dog on the premises within 72 hours. The sign shall be visible and legible from the sidewalk and street.

(3)

If the animal is kept outdoors, the owner shall properly confine the dog in a pen or structure with secure sides and a secure top. If the bottom is not secured to the sides, the sides must be embedded in the ground no less than two feet. The pen shall be no

less than six feet high and contain no less than 50 square feet of ground space. All pens shall comply with City zoning and building codes. The vicious dog shall be kept inside until an outdoor pen has been approved by the animal control official.

(4)

No person owning or harboring a dangerous or vicious dog shall permit such dog to go beyond the confined area of such person's premises unless the dog is securely leashed and muzzled. The leash shall not be longer than four feet. Retractable or flexi-leads are not allowed. The leash shall be controlled by a person who is 16 years of age or older and be physically capable of controlling the dog.

<u>(5)</u>

The owner must provide within a reasonable time, but no longer than four weeks, proof at registration that:

(a)

The property owner's and/or tenant's insurance policy for the real property in which the dangerous dog is housed contains a rider or a liability clause for dangerous dogs.

(b)

The dog's rabies vaccination status is current.

(c)

The dog is licensed for the current year; and

(d)

The dog is microchipped with a permanent ID.

(6)

Once a dog is deemed to be dangerous, it shall be neutered or spayed within a reasonable time, but no longer than four weeks, so as not to propagate vicious characteristics inherent in the property of the dangerous dog.

<u>(7)</u>

Any dog known to be vicious and found running at large which cannot be safely taken up and impounded may be slain by any police officer.

<u>C.</u>

Violations and penalties; enforcement.

(1)

Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be subject to a fine of \$1,000, and in default of payment of fine and costs, be imprisoned not more than 90 days. Further, each day for which a violation occurs and each violation of any provision of this section shall constitute a separate offense. Each day's violation shall constitute a separate offense.

(2)

The Pottsville Police Department and Health Officer shall enforce the provisions of this section.

<u>(3)</u>

Three violations of Subsection $\underline{\mathbf{B}}$ of this section shall result in mandatory euthanasia of the dangerous dog at the expense of the dog owner. However, the police or Health Officer may determine that the dog shall be euthanized after only one attack, depending on the severity of the attack.

§ 87-22Adoption of statute.

Be it hereby ordained and enacted that the City adopts the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Agriculture, "Dog Law," Act of December 7, 1982, P.L. 784, No. 225.

§ 87-23Unpaid assessment: costs to become lien.

If a property owner does not remit to the City assessed fees as identified in §§ 87-8 and 87-20, the City Treasurer is hereby empowered to certify the amount due to the City and remit that amount for collection. In addition to the full amount due to the City, the property owner will also be responsible for paying administration fees assessed to the account by the collection entity. If collection efforts are exhausted, that amount will be provided to the City Solicitor. The amount due shall then be a lien upon such premises from the time the lien is filed. The amount due shall also include filing fees, satisfaction fees, and attorney's fees. All of the above shall constitute the lien on said property.

§ 87-24 Breeding, Hobby Breeder:

No persons may breed any animals in the city of Pottsville. Exemptions for shelters, pet shops, etc. may be made at the discretion of the City Health & Animal Officer, then approved by the City Council.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED THIS 10 th day of ______ 2024

CITY OF POTTSVILLE

Mayor Dave Clews

ATTEST: