

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Animal Control Minutes
Thursday, June 30, 2022

Members present; Sean Sargeant, Dr. Luther Brown, Carrie Savage and Michael Talbott. Also present, ACO Jones, Deputy City Clerk Kapusta, David O'Brien, Maciej Lorentz.

Chair Sargeant called the meeting to order at 5:38 PM and noted that the Board was asked to hear a vicious dog complaint from ACO Jones who investigated an incident with a German Shepherd named Mia, owned by David O'Brien (respondent), and Maciej Lorentz (complainant). Deputy Clerk Kapusta confirmed that notices were sent by Certified Mail with tracking, that both Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Lorentz received the notices on June 23, 2022 and June 29, 2022 respectively. Chair Sargeant introduced all members and participants present. Chair Sargeant asked if there were any conflicts or ex-parte communications from the Board. Seeing none, Chair Sargeant asked Deputy Clerk Kapusta to swear in anyone giving testimony or evidence. ACO Jones, Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Lorentz were sworn in.

ACO Jones read the Vicious Dog Complaint form and brief history of the attack that occurred on June 09, 2022. ACO Jones presented evidence including sworn statements, medical records, pictures and police reports. ACO Jones presented his evidence and reviewed the documents prior to submitting them to the Chair. Chair Sargeant noted the documents and placed them into evidence. On the date of the attack Mr. O'Brien's dog Mia had not been registered with the City of Rutland. Mr. O'Brien registered his dog Mia in June 10, 2022. At the time of the attack Mia was up to date on her rabies.

Mr. Lorentz was asked to comment on the incident and gave verbal testimony of the incident. Mr. Lorentz was riding his one wheeled skate board near 160 Bellevue Avenue when a German Shepherd ran through the bushes and bit him on his left calf through his jeans causing a puncture wound that bled. The dog retreated as soon as the owner called the dog off. Mr. Lorentz called 911 for an ambulance as he was bleeding through his jeans and didn't know how serious the bit was. He was transported to the Emergency Department at Rutland Regional Medical Center. The wound was cleaned and required four stitches and antibiotics were prescribed.

There was a brief Q & A with Mr. Lorentz and the Board.

Mr. O'Brien was asked to comment on the incident and gave verbal testimony of the incident. Mr. O'Brien stated that everything Mr. Lorentz said was correct. Mr. O'Brien was very upset and said that this was not expectable behavior for his dog. He is getting training for his dog and has plans to build a fence.

There was a brief Q & A with Mr. O'Brien and the Board.

At this point, Chair Sargeant offered all evidence presented, to Deputy Clerk Kapusta.

With no further questions from the Board, testimony or evidence from either party, the Board concluded the open meeting session at 6:08 PM.

At 6:10 PM the Board moved into deliberative session. At 6:25 PM the Board adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Tracy L. Kapusta
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Animal Control