

CITY OF RUTLAND, VERMONT
Board of Animal Control Minutes
Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Members present; Sean Sargeant, Dr. Luther Brown, Christopher Siliski, Lisa Ryan and Rebecca Mattis. Also present, City Attorney Bloomer, ACO Jones (Complainant), Chief Kilcullen, Jessica Kane (Respondent), Joseph Desorda (Respondent) and City Clerk Heck.

Chair Sargeant called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and noted that the victim, Joseph Hanrahan was not present. There was brief debate with ACO Jones whether Mr. Hanrahan would be coming. ACO Jones noted that he heard from Mr. Hanrahan's mother who called earlier and stated that he would not be present. Chair Sargeant introduced the Board and explained the rules of the hearing.

Chair Sargeant then read ACO Jones Vicious Dog Complaint form. Chair Sargeant asked if there were any conflicts or ex-parte communications from the Board. Seeing none, Chair Sargeant asked Clerk Heck to swear in anyone giving testimony or evidence. Clerk Heck swore in ACO Jones, Joseph Disorda and Jessica Kane.

ACO Jones spoke on the incident and presented several documents of evidence. ACO Jones presented his evidence and reviewed the documents prior to submitting them to the Chair. There was brief Q & A with the ACO and Board.

Chair Sargeant then asked Joseph Desorda to present his case. Mr. Desorda noted an earlier event with his dogs and another dog. Mr. Disorda then noted that he was on his normal walk when he and his dog met Lupa and her owner at a corner of their walk. Jessica Kent spoke and noted that she felt her dog was hyper sensitive to the situation because of the earlier event and how Lupa and Max met at the corner in what was stated as a very brief (seconds) encounter. There was Q & A from Board members and the respondents.

With no further questions of the respondents, Chair Sargeant asked ACO Jones if he had any questions. Seeing none, Chair Sargeant reviewed the evidence to be presented and took final questions from the respondents and the Board.

Chair Sargeant noted that if there were no other questions or testimony, then the Board would move into deliberative session part of the hearing. Both parties noted that they were set. Chair Sargeant noted that the Board would move into deliberative session and determine if the definition of a vicious dog was met and what if any prescriptions the Board would make. Chair Sargeant noted that the Clerk and Attorney would be providing a decision within 30 days and thanked everyone for coming.

At 6:17 PM the Board moved into deliberative session.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry A. Heck
Rutland City Clerk
Clerk of the Board of Animal Control