

Chapter 78

Animals

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Article II

Canine Control

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§ 78-4 Reclaiming impounded canines; confinement period; impoundment fee.

[Amended 5-21-2013]

- A. If a canine is legally impounded by the Animal Control Officer in compliance with Maine Revised Statutes Annotated, Title 7, Parts 8 and 9, and the canine's owner is unknown or unavailable to take immediate possession of the canine, the canine shall be placed in a shelter designated by the City. The Animal Control Officer will make a reasonable attempt to determine the ownership of the impounded canine and make notification, if possible, within three days of the impoundment. Failure to give such notice shall in no way impose any liability upon the City.
- B. Maine State Law requires that the canine be confined at the shelter for a period of not less than six days. Any canine not reclaimed by the owner within six days shall be considered abandoned by the owner and become the property of the designated shelter, which may at its discretion humanely euthanize the canine or place the canine for adoption to any person deemed to be a responsible and suitable owner.
- C. The owner of an impounded canine must pay an impoundment fee to the Police Department prior to reclaiming the canine from the City designated shelter. The shelter will not release the canine without proof that this fee has been paid. The fee shall be ~~\$25~~ \$30 per dog for a first offense; ~~\$50~~ \$55 per dog for a second offense within one year; and ~~\$75~~ \$85 per dog for a third and subsequent offense within one year. [Amended 1-5-2021 by Order No. 20-162-01] [**Amended 6/4/2024 by Order No. 24-236-01**]