

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 10, SECTION 11.3 OF THE REVISED
GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST ORANGE
(LICENSING OF CATS-LICENSING REQUIREMENTS)**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY that Chapter 10, Section 11.3 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of West Orange be and are hereby amended as follows:

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this ordinance is to modify the fines set forth in Chapter 10, Section 11.3 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of West Orange (the “Township Code”) to be amendable by Resolution such that it is amendable in the future by approval of the Township Council, a necessity in an everchanging socioeconomic climate.

II. CHAPTER 10, SECTION 11.3 SHALL BE AND HEREBY IS AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTED TO INCORPORATE THE FOLLOWING:

§10-11.3 BE AND HEREBY AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

- The portion entitled “Licensing Requirements” which specifies the licensing requirements that govern the ownership of a cat in the Township shall be repealed and replaced by the following language:
 - a. Display of License Number Required. Any person who shall own, keep, or harbor a cat of licensing age shall annually apply for and procure from the Health Department a license and official registration tag with license number, or a registration sleeve for each cat so owned, kept, or harbored, and shall place upon such cat a collar, or other device with the license number securely fastened or displayed thereto. Acceptable methods of displaying license number shall include, but are not limited to, breakaway or elastic collars. License tags or sleeves are not transferable.
 - b. Time for Applying for License. The owner of any newly acquired cat of licensing age, or of any cat which attains licensing age, shall make application for license tag or sleeve for such cat within 10 days after such acquisition or age attainment. This requirement will not apply to a nonresident keeping a cat within the Township for not longer than 90 days. Applications shall be furnished by the Health Department.
 - c. Cats Brought into Township. Any person who shall bring, or cause to be brought into this Township, any cat licensed in another State for the current year, and bearing registration tag or sleeve, and shall keep the same or permit the same to be kept within the Township for a period of more than 90 days, shall immediately apply for a license and registration tag or sleeve for each such cat.

d. Application, Contents, Preservation of Information. The application shall state the breed, sex, age, color, and markings of the cat for which license and registration are sought, and whether it is of a long or shorthaired variety; also the name, street, and post office address of the owner, and the person who shall keep or harbor such cat. The information on the application and the registration number issued for the cat shall be preserved for a period of three years by the Health Department.

e. License Forms and Tags. License forms and official tags or sleeves shall be furnished by the Health Department and shall be numbered serially, and shall bear the year of issuance and the name of the municipality.

f. Evidence of Inoculation with Rabies Vaccine or Certification of Exemption; Requirement for License. The Health Department shall not grant any such license and official registration tag or sleeve for any cat, unless the owner thereof provides evidence that the cat to be licensed and registered has been inoculated with a rabies vaccine of a type approved by and administered in accordance with the recommendations of the United States Department of Human Services, or has been certified exempt as provided by subsection § 10-11.2. The rabies inoculation shall be administered by a duly licensed veterinarian, or by such other veterinarian permitted by law to do the same.

g. License Fee Schedule. A license shall be issued after payment of a fee ~~of \$15 for each unaltered cat, and \$12 for each altered cat~~ as prescribed by Resolution. Persons who fail to obtain a license as required within the time period specified in this section, will be subject to a delinquent fee ~~of \$5~~ in an amount prescribed by Resolution.

h. Fees, Renewals, Expiration Date of License. License from another municipality shall be accepted. The person applying for the license and registration tag and/or sleeve shall pay the fee fixed or authorized. The fee for the renewal of license and registration tag or sleeve shall be the same as for the original, and the license, registration tag or sleeve and renewal thereof shall expire on January 31 of the following year.

Only one license and registration tag or sleeve shall be required in the licensing year for any cat in this Township. Any valid New Jersey license tag or sleeve issued by a New Jersey municipality shall be accepted by this municipality as evidence of compliance.

i. Loss of License. If a license tag or sleeve has been misplaced or lost, the Health Department may issue a duplicate license and/or registration sleeve for that particular cat at a fee ~~of \$2~~ in an amount prescribed by Resolution.

j. Proof of Licensing. Proof of licensing shall be produced by any person owning, keeping, maintaining, or harboring a cat, upon the request of any Health Official, Police Officer, Animal Control Officer, or other authorized person.

k. Interfering with Persons Performing Duties Under this Section. No person shall hinder, molest, or interfere with anyone authorized or empowered to perform any duty under this section.

l. Disposition of Fees Collected. License fees and other moneys collected or received under the provisions of this section, shall be forwarded to the Chief Financial Officer of the Township, and shall be placed in a special account separate from any of the other accounts of the municipality and shall be used for the following purposes only; collecting, keeping, and disposing of cats liable to seizure, for local prevention and control of rabies, providing anti-rabies treatment under the direction of the Health Department for any person known or suspected to have been exposed to rabies, and for administering the provisions of this section. Any unexpected balance remaining in such special account shall be retained until the end of the third fiscal year following, and may be used for any of the purposes set forth in this section. At the end of the third fiscal year following and at the end of each fiscal year thereafter, there shall be transferred from such special account to the general funds of the municipality any amount then in such account which is in excess of the municipality any amount then in such account which is in excess of the total amount paid into the special account during the last two fiscal years next preceding.

III. REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES

Any Ordinances of the Township which are in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

IV. SEVERABILITY

If any part of this Ordinance shall be deemed invalid, such parts shall be severed and the invalidity thereof shall not affect the remaining parts of this Ordinance.

V. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in accordance with the law.

SUSAN MCCARTNEY, MAYOR

**TAMMY WILLIAMS,
COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

**KAREN J. CARNEVALE, R.M.C.
MUNICIPAL CLERK**

INTRODUCED: June 13, 2023

ADOPTED: July 11, 2023

Legislative History

The purpose of this ordinance is to modify the fines set forth in Chapter 10 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of West Orange to be subject to adjustment by Resolution.