

CHAPTER 55

ANIMAL PROTECTION AND CONTROL

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55.01 DEFINITIONS. The following terms are defined for use in this chapter.

1. "Advertise" means to present a commercial message in any medium including but not limited to print, radio, television, sign, display, label, tag or articulation.
2. "Animal" means a nonhuman vertebrate.
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 717B.1)
3. "At large" means off the premises of the owner and not under the control of a competent person, restrained within a motor vehicle, or housed in a veterinary hospital or kennel.
4. "Business" means any enterprise relating to any of the following:
 - A. The sale or offer for sale of goods or services.
 - B. A recruitment for employment or membership in an organization.
 - C. A solicitation to make an investment.
 - D. An amusement or entertainment activity.
5. "Fair" means any of the following:
 - A. The annual fair and exposition held by the Iowa State Fair Board pursuant to Chapter 173 of the Code of Iowa or any fair event conducted by a fair under the provisions of Chapter 174 of the Code of Iowa.
 - B. An exhibition of agricultural or manufactured products.
 - C. An event for operation of amusement rides or devices or concession booths.
6. "Game" means a "game of chance" or "game of skill" as defined in Section 99B.1 of the Code of Iowa.
7. "Livestock" means an animal belonging to the bovine, caprine, equine, ovine or porcine species, ostriches, rheas and emus; farm deer as defined in Section 170.1 of the Code of Iowa; or poultry.
(Code of Iowa, Sec. 717.1)
8. "Owner" means any person owning, keeping, sheltering or harboring an animal.

9. "Pet" means a living dog, cat or an animal normally maintained in a small tank or cage in or near a residence, including but not limited to a rabbit, gerbil, hamster, mouse, parrot, canary, mynah, finch, tropical fish, goldfish, snake, turtle, gecko or iguana.

55.02 ANIMAL NEGLECT. It is unlawful for a person who impounds or confines, in any place, an animal, excluding livestock, to fail to supply the animal during confinement with a sufficient quantity of food or water, or to fail to provide a confined dog or cat with adequate shelter, or to torture, deprive of necessary sustenance, mutilate, beat, or kill such animal by any means which causes unjustified pain, distress or suffering.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 717B.3)

55.03 LIVESTOCK NEGLECT. It is unlawful for a person who impounds or confines livestock in any place to fail to provide the livestock with care consistent with customary animal husbandry practices or to deprive the livestock of necessary sustenance or to injure or destroy livestock by any means which causes pain or suffering in a manner inconsistent with customary animal husbandry practices.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 717.2)

55.04 ABANDONMENT OF CATS AND DOGS. A person who has ownership or custody of a cat or dog shall not abandon the cat or dog, except the person may deliver the cat or dog to another person who will accept ownership and custody or the person may deliver the cat or dog to an animal shelter or pound.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 717B.8)

55.05 LIVESTOCK. It is unlawful for a person to keep livestock within the City except by written consent of the Council or except in compliance with the City's zoning regulations.

55.06 AT LARGE PROHIBITED. It is unlawful for any owner to allow dogs and cats to run at large within the corporate limits of the City.

55.07 DAMAGE OR INTERFERENCE. It is unlawful for the owner of an animal to allow or permit such animal to pass upon the premises of another thereby causing damage to, or interference with, the premises.

55.08 ANNOYANCE OR DISTURBANCE. It is unlawful for the owner of a dog to allow or permit such dog to cause serious annoyance or disturbance to any person or persons by frequent and habitual howling, yelping, barking, or otherwise; or, by running after or chasing persons, bicycles, automobiles or other vehicles.

55.09 RABIES VACCINATION. Every owner of a dog shall obtain a rabies vaccination for such animal. It is unlawful for any person to own or have a dog in said person's possession, six months of age or over, which has not been vaccinated against rabies. Dogs kept in kennels and not allowed to run at large are not subject to these vaccination requirements.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 351.33)

55.10 OWNER'S DUTY. It is the duty of the owner of any dog, cat or other animal which has bitten or attacked a person or any person having knowledge of such bite or attack to report this act to a local health or law enforcement official. It is the duty of physicians and

veterinarians to report to the local board of health the existence of any animal known or suspected to be suffering from rabies.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 351.38)

55.11 CONFINEMENT. If a local board of health receives information that an animal has bitten a person or that a dog or animal is suspected of having rabies, the board shall order the owner to confine such animal in the manner it directs. If the owner fails to confine such animal in the manner directed, the animal shall be apprehended and impounded by such board, and after ten (10) days the board may humanely destroy the animal. If such animal is returned to its owner, the owner shall pay the cost of impoundment. This section does not apply if a police service dog or a horse used by a law enforcement agency and acting in the performance of its duties has bitten a person.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 351.39)

55.12 AT LARGE: IMPOUNDMENT. Dogs and cats found at large in violation of this chapter shall be seized and impounded, or at the discretion of the peace officer, the owner may be served a summons to appear before a proper court to answer charges made thereunder.

55.13 DISPOSITION OF ANIMALS. When an animal has been apprehended and impounded, written notice shall be given in not less than two days to the owner, if known. Impounded animals may be recovered by the owner upon payment of impounding costs to the veterinarian plus a pickup fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) to the City, and if an unvaccinated dog or cat, by having it immediately vaccinated. If the owner does not redeem the animal within seven days of the date of notice, or if the owner cannot be located within seven days, the animal may be humanely destroyed or otherwise disposed of in accordance with law.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 351.37, 351.41)

55.14 CARE AND KEEPING OF ANIMALS.

1. No person shall aid or cause any animal, whether owned by such person or not, to escape confinement or impoundment, whether such confinement or impoundment is upon such person's property or that of another, by opening any gate, door or window, by making an opening in any fence, enclosure or structure, or by unleashing such animal.

2. It is the duty of every person owning or having the custody or control of an animal to physically restrain the animal within an enclosure or upon a leash when such animal is left unattended outside or is not at heel. The animal must be restrained so as to prevent the animal from leaving the premises of its owner or from coming in contact with public right-of-way or the property of another. Failure to restrain an animal pursuant to this subsection constitutes a misdemeanor.

3. It is prohibited for any person in any manner to interfere with any employee or designated representative of the City so as to hinder, delay or prevent his or her executing duties in relation to the matters and things contained in this chapter.

4. It is unlawful for any person owning, controlling or caring for any animal to fail to keep in a clean and sanitary condition the premises and any pen, kennel, shelter, house or person's dwelling or other structure where the animal is at any time kept. At least once every twenty-four (24) hours, or more often if odors or health problems arise, such person shall pick up any and all feces so as to prevent its accumulation and the same shall be properly disposed of. Feces shall be held in watertight and flytight containers pending disposal and shall be disposed of at least once weekly. The animal

and place where the animal is maintained shall also be kept free of obnoxious odors and shall be maintained so as not to attract or permit the harborage or breeding of flies and other insects or rodents or other vermin. All animal food and water shall be stored and placed for the animal's consumption in such a manner so that it will not become food for rodents and other vermin.

55.15 SCHEDULED OFFENSES AND FINES. The following scheduled fines are fixed for violation of the designated sections of this chapter:

1. For violation of Section 55.06 (Running at Large):
 - A. First offense \$ 10.00
 - B. Second offense \$ 20.00
 - C. Third offense \$ 50.00
 - D. Over third offense to be determined by the court.
2. For violation of Section 55.14
(Care and Keeping) \$ 50.00.

Violations by persons who elect not to pay the scheduled fines set forth in this section or otherwise fail to appear on or before the appearance date and all other offenses not identified in this section as a scheduled offense shall constitute misdemeanors. Each day a violation occurs shall constitute a separate offense.

55.16 PET AWARDS PROHIBITED.

(Code of Iowa, Ch. 717.E)

1. Prohibition. It is unlawful for any person to award a pet or advertise that a pet may be awarded as any of the following:
 - A. A prize for participating in a game.
 - B. A prize for participating in a fair.
 - C. An inducement or condition for visiting a place of business or attending an event sponsored by a business.
 - D. An inducement or condition for executing a contract which includes provisions unrelated to the ownership, care or disposition of the pet.
2. Exceptions. This section does not apply to any of the following:
 - A. A pet shop licensed pursuant to Section 162.5 of the Code of Iowa if the award of a pet is provided in connection with the sale of a pet on the premises of the pet shop.
 - B. Youth programs associated with 4-H Clubs; Future Farmers of America; the Izaak Walton League of America; or organizations associated with outdoor recreation, hunting or fishing, including but not limited to the Iowa Sportsmen's Federation.

CHAPTER 56

DANGEROUS AND VICIOUS ANIMALS

56.01 Definitions

56.02 Keeping of Dangerous Animals Prohibited

56.03 Seizure, Impoundment and Disposition of Dangerous Animals

56.04 Keeping of Vicious Animals Prohibited

56.05 Seizure, Impoundment and Disposition of Vicious Animals

56.06 Insurance

56.07 Scheduled Offenses and Fines

56.01 DEFINITIONS. For use in this chapter, the following terms are defined:

1. "Animal" means every wild, tame or domestic member of the animal kingdom other than the genus and species *Homo sapiens*.
2. "Animal control officer" means the Police Chief of the City.
3. "At large" means off the premises of the owner, unless:
 - A. The animal is on a leash, cord, chain or similar restraint not more than six (6) feet in length and under the control of the person; or
 - B. The animal is within a motor vehicle; or
 - C. The animal is housed within a veterinary hospital, licensed kennel, pet shop or animal shelter; or
 - D. The animal is at heel.
4. "Dangerous animal" means:
 - A. Badgers, wolverines, weasels, mink and other Mustelids (except ferrets);
 - B. Black widow spiders and scorpions;
 - C. Raccoons, opossums and skunks.
5. "Dog" means and includes members of the canine species, male or female, whether neutered or not.
6. "Owner" has the same meaning given in Chapter 55.
7. "Pet shop" means any person engaged in the business of breeding, buying, selling or boarding animals of any species, except the operation of a kennel, agriculture or wildlife pursuits.
8. "Vicious animal" means any animal, except for a dangerous animal per se, as listed above, that has bitten or clawed a person or persons while running at large and the attack was unprovoked, or any animal that has exhibited vicious propensities in present or past conduct, including such that said animal (a) has bitten or clawed a person or persons on two separate occasions within a twelve-month period; or (b) did bite or claw once causing injuries above the shoulders of a person; or (c) could not be controlled or restrained by the owner at the time of the attack to prevent the occurrence; or (d) has attacked any domestic animal or fowl on two separate occasions within a twelve-month period, or which has been found to possess such propensities by the Council, after hearing.

56.02 KEEPING OF DANGEROUS ANIMALS PROHIBITED. No person shall keep, shelter or harbor any dangerous animal as a pet, or act as a custodian for such animal, temporarily or otherwise, or keep such animal for any purpose or in any capacity within the City.

56.03 SEIZURE, IMPOUNDMENT AND DISPOSITION OF DANGEROUS ANIMALS.

1. In the event that a dangerous animal is found at large and unattended upon public property, park property, public right-of-way or the property of someone other than its owner, thereby creating a hazard to persons or property, such animal may, in the discretion of the animal control officer, be destroyed if it cannot be confined or captured. The City shall be under no duty to attempt the confinement or capture of a dangerous animal found at large, nor shall it have a duty to notify the owner of such animal prior to its destruction.
2. Upon the written complaint of any individual that a person is keeping, sheltering or harboring a dangerous animal on premises in the City, the animal control officer shall cause the matter to be investigated and if after investigation, the facts indicate that the person named in the complaint is keeping, sheltering or harboring a dangerous animal in the City, the animal control officer shall order the person named in the complaint to safely remove such animal from the City or destroy the animal, within three (3) days of the receipt of such order. Such order shall be contained in a notice to remove the dangerous animal, which notice shall be given in writing to the person keeping, sheltering or harboring the dangerous animal, and shall be served personally or by certified mail. Such order and notice to remove the dangerous animal shall not be required where such dangerous animal has previously caused serious physical harm or death to any person, in which case the animal control officer shall cause the animal to be immediately seized and impounded or killed if seizure and impoundment are not possible without risk of serious physical harm or death to any person.
3. The order to remove a dangerous animal issued by the animal control officer may be appealed to the Council. In order to appeal such order, written notice of appeal must be filed with the Clerk within three (3) days after receipt of the order contained in the notice to remove the dangerous animal. Failure to file such written notice of appeal shall constitute a waiver of right to appeal the order of the animal control officer.
4. The notice of appeal shall state the grounds for such appeal and shall be delivered personally or by certified mail to the Clerk. The hearing of such appeal shall be scheduled within seven (7) days of the receipt of notice of appeal. After such hearing, the Council may affirm or reverse the order of the animal control officer. Such determination shall be contained in a written decision and shall be filed with the Clerk within three (3) days after the hearing or any continued session thereof.
5. If the Council affirms the action of the animal control officer, the Council shall order in its written decision that the person owning, sheltering, harboring or keeping such dangerous animal remove such animal from the City or destroy it. The decision and order shall immediately be served upon the person against whom rendered in the same manner as the notice of removal. If the original order of the animal control officer is not appealed and is not complied with within three (3) days of its issuance, the animal control officer is authorized to seize and impound such

dangerous animal. An animal so seized shall be impounded for a period of seven (7) days. If at the end of the impoundment period, the person against whom the decision and order of the Council was issued has not petitioned the District Court for a review of said order, the City shall cause the animal to be disposed of by sale or destroy such animal in a humane manner. Failure to comply with an order of the City issued pursuant hereto constitutes a misdemeanor offense.

56.04 KEEPING OF VICIOUS ANIMALS PROHIBITED. No person shall keep, shelter or harbor for any reason within the City a vicious animal except in the following circumstances:

1. Animals under the control of a law enforcement or military agency.
2. The keeping of guard dogs; however, guard dogs must be kept within a structure or fixed enclosure at all times, and any guard dog found at large may be processed as a vicious animal pursuant to the provisions of Section 56.05. Any premises guarded by a guard dog shall be prominently posted with a sign containing the wording "Guard Dog," "Vicious Dog" or words of similar import, and the owner of such premises shall inform the Police Chief that a guard dog is on duty at said premises.

56.05 SEIZURE, IMPOUNDMENT AND DISPOSITION OF VICIOUS ANIMALS.

1. The animal control officer or designee, in his or her discretion or upon receipt of a complaint alleging that a particular animal is a vicious animal, may initiate proceedings to declare such animal a vicious animal. A hearing on the matter shall be conducted by the Council. The person owning, keeping, sheltering or harboring the animal in question shall be given not less than seventy-two (72) hours' written notice of the time and place of said hearing. Said notice shall set forth the description of the animal in question and the basis for the allegation of viciousness. The notice shall state that if the animal is determined to be vicious, the owner will be required to remove it from the City or allow it to be destroyed. The notice shall be served upon any adult residing at the premises where the animal is located, or may be posted on those premises if no adult is present to accept service.
2. If, after hearing, the Council determines that an animal is vicious, the Council shall order the person owning, sheltering or harboring or keeping the animal to remove it from the City or to cause it to be destroyed in a humane manner. The order shall immediately be served upon the person against whom issued in the same manner as the notice of hearing. If the order is not complied with within three (3) days of its issuance, the animal control officer is authorized to seize and impound the animal. An animal so seized shall be impounded for a period of seven (7) days. If at the end of the impoundment period, the person against whom the order of the Council was issued has not petitioned the District Court for a review of such order, the animal control officer shall cause the animal to be destroyed.
3. Failure to comply with an order of the Council issued pursuant hereto shall constitute a misdemeanor offense.
4. Any animal found at large which displays vicious tendencies may be processed as a vicious animal pursuant to the foregoing, unless the animal is so vicious that it cannot be safely be apprehended, in which case the animal control officer may immediately destroy it or unless its ownership is not ascertainable, in

which case the animal control officer may destroy it after three (3) days of impoundment.

5. Any animal which is alleged to be vicious and which is under impoundment or quarantine at the animal shelter shall not be released to the owner, but shall continue to be held at the expense of the owner pending the outcome of the hearing. All costs of such impoundment or quarantine shall be paid by the owner if the animal is determined to be vicious. If the animal is not determined to be vicious, such impoundment or quarantine costs shall be paid by the City.

56.06 INSURANCE. Every person keeping or maintaining a guard dog as provided in this chapter, shall accompany any application or display upon request by the animal control officer a certificate of insurance from an insurance company authorized to do business in the State with coverage of at least one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) combined single limit liability for bodily injury. Such certificate of insurance shall provide that no cancellation of the insurance will be made unless then (10) days' written notice is first given to the Clerk. Failure to provide or display such certificate of insurance shall immediately cause the applicant, licensee or owner of such animal to lose the exemption status as provided in this chapter.

56.07 SCHEDULED OFFENSES AND FINES. The scheduled fine fixed for violation of this chapter is \$50.00. Violations by persons who elect not to pay the scheduled fine set forth in this section or otherwise fail to appear on or before the appearance date shall constitute misdemeanors. Each day a violation occurs shall constitute a separate offense.

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CHAPTER 57

DOG AND CAT LICENSES REQUIRED

57.01 Annual License Required

57.02 License Fees

57.03 Delinquency

57.04 License Tags

57.05 License Records

57.06 Immunization

57.07 Duplicate Tags

57.08 Transfers of Licensed Animals

57.09 Kennel Dogs

57.10 Scheduled Offenses and Fines

57.01 ANNUAL LICENSE REQUIRED.

1. Every owner of a dog or cat over the age of six (6) months shall procure a dog license from the Clerk on or before the first day of January of each year.
2. Such license may be procured after January 1 and at any time for a dog or cat which has come into the possession or ownership of the applicant or which has reached the age of six (6) months after said date.
3. The owner of a dog or cat for which a license is required shall apply to the Clerk on forms provided by the City.
4. The form of the application shall state the breed, sex, age, color, markings, and name, if any, of the dog or cat, and the address of the owner and shall be signed by the owner. The application shall also state the date of the most recent rabies vaccination, the type of vaccine administered and the date the dog or cat shall be revaccinated.
5. All licenses shall expire on January 1 of the year following the date of issuance.

57.02 LICENSE FEES. The annual license fee shall be \$3.00 for neutered males and females and \$5.00 for unneutered males and females.

57.03 DELINQUENCY. All license fees shall become delinquent on the first day of July of the year in which they are due and a delinquent penalty of one dollar (\$1.00) shall be added to each unpaid license on and after said date.

57.04 LICENSE TAGS. Upon receipt of the application and fee, the Clerk shall deliver or mail to the owner a license which shall be in the form of a metal tag stamped with the serial number of the license as shown on the record book of the Clerk, the year in which it is issued, and the name of the City. The license tag shall be securely fastened by the owner to a collar or harness which shall be worn at all times by the dog or cat for which issued. A license issued for one dog or cat shall not be transferable to another dog or cat. Upon the expiration of the license the owner shall remove said tag from the dog or cat.

57.05 LICENSE RECORDS. The Clerk shall keep a book to be known as the record of licenses which shall show:

1. The serial number and date of each application for a license.
2. The description of the dog or cat as specified in the application, together with the name of the owner of the animal.

- 3. The date when each license tag is issued and the serial number of each tag, the date of the most recent rabies vaccination, the type of vaccine administered, and the date the dog or cat shall be revaccinated.
- 4. The amount of all fees paid.
- 5. Such other data as may be required by law.

57.06 IMMUNIZATION. Before a license is issued, the owner shall furnish a veterinarian’s certificate showing that the dog or cat for which the license is sought has been vaccinated against rabies, and that the vaccination does not expire within six months from the effective date of the license. A tag showing evidence of proper vaccination shall at all times be attached to the collar of the dog or cat.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 351.33)

57.07 DUPLICATE TAGS. Upon the filing of an affidavit that the license tag has been lost or destroyed, the owner may obtain another tag on the payment of two dollars (\$2.00) and the Clerk shall enter in the license record the new number assigned.

57.08 TRANSFERS OF LICENSED ANIMALS. Upon transfer of a licensed dog or cat into the City, the owner shall surrender the original license tag to the Clerk. The Clerk shall preserve the surrendered tag and, without a license fee, issue a new license tag.

57.09 KENNEL DOGS. Dogs kept in state or federally licensed kennels, which are kept or raised solely for the bona fide purpose of sale and which are kept under constant restraint, are not subject to the provisions of this chapter.

57.10 SCHEDULED OFFENSES AND FINES. The following scheduled fines are fixed for violation of this chapter:

- 1. First offense \$ 20.00
- 2. Second offense \$ 30.00
- 3. Third offense \$ 40.00
- 4. Fourth and subsequent offenses..... to be determined by the court.

Violations by persons who elect not to pay the scheduled fines set forth in this section or otherwise fail to appear on or before the appearance date and all other offenses not identified in this section as a scheduled offense shall constitute misdemeanors. Each day a violation occurs shall constitute a separate offense.

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