

AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE NO. 164

AN ORDINANCE TO THE TOWN OF YOUNGSVILLE, LOUISIANA,
PROVIDING FOR RABIES CONTROL, AND FOR A LEASE LAW
CONTROLLING DOGS AND CATS AND THE IMPOUNDMENT THEREOF
AND PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF

ORDINANCE AS AMENDED:

FINE TO BE SET AT A MINIMUM OF \$5.00 NOT TO EXCEED A
MAXIMUM OF \$50.00 PLUS COURT COST FEES.

Ordinance Amended at the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and
Town Council held on Thursday, March 12, 1987.

The above ordinance amendment was introduced by Brent Comeaux,
and seconded by Rose Besse, and the votes were as follows:

YEAS: 4 (Four)

Nays: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

ABSENCES: None

Attest:

Rebecca Langlais
Rebecca Langlais
Secretary

Francis David
Mayor Francis David
Town of Youngsville

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BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF
YOUNGSVILLE, LOUISIANA:

ARTICLE 1.

RABIES

Section 1.

The Town Health Officer or animal warden shall impound any animal that has bitten a human being or has been bitten by an animal suspected of having rabies, or any infection associated thereto for a period of ten (10) days or longer for observation.

ARTICLE 2.

CRUELTY

Section 1.

Cruelty to animals is the intentional and criminally negligent mistreatment of any animal by any act or omission whereby unjustifiable physical pain, suffering or death is caused or permitted upon said animal.

ARTICLE 3

ANIMALS OTHER THAN LIVESTOCK

Section 1. Definitions:

Animal: The term "animal" is defined as any animal of a species that is susceptible to rabies with the exception of livestock.

Animal Control Shelter: The term "animal control shelter" is defined as a place designated for the keeping of animals taken into custody under the provisions of this article.

Animal Warden: The term "animal warden" is defined as any person or agency employed by the Town and charged with the responsibility of the enforcement of any or all of the terms of this chapter.

Collar: The term "collar" is defined as a band, chain, harness or other device worn around the neck of the animal to which vaccination tag(s) may be affixed.

Leash: The term "leash" is defined as a rope, chain or cord not more than fifteen (15) feet in length and of sufficient strength to control the action of an animal, which is affixed to the animal for maintaining direct physical control by the owner or person in charge of the animal.

Owner: The term "owner" is defined as any person who has right of property of the animal, or who keeps in his care or harbors an animal, or who acts as his custodian, or permits an animal to remain on or about his premises.

Running at Large: The term "running at large" is defined as the going upon public or private property by an animal without the owner or person in charge thereof having direct physical control over such animal and includes any animal which may be staked, tied or hobbled in any manner within the Town in such a manner as to allow such animal to get to or to get upon the public street or sidewalk or another person's property.

Supervisor: The term "supervisor" is defined as a supervisor of the animal control operation as herein prescribed.

Vaccination against Rabies: The term "vaccination against Rabies" is defined as an inoculation by a veterinarian or other qualified persons under the supervision of a veterinarian, of an antirabies vaccine.

Vaccination Certificate: The term "vaccination certificate" is defined as a serially numbered certificate, on a form approved by the supervisor,

countersigned by the veterinarian administering the vaccine, giving the name of the owner of the animal to whom issued, the description of the animal indicating the year for which issued, and certifying that the animal was inoculated or vaccinated against rabies and giving the date thereof.

Veterinarian: The term "veterinarian" is defined as any person duly licensed to practice veterinary medicine by the Louisiana Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners.

Veterinary Hospital: The term "veterinary hospital" is defined as a place where medical and surgical treatment is administered to animals by or under the supervision of a veterinarian.

Section 2. Running At Large:

No animal shall be allowed to run at large, whether he be tagged or untagged, or whether he be on private or public property, without the owner or person in charge thereof having direct physical control over such animal by means of a leash, except where such private property is the private property of such owner or person in charge. This section shall not apply to livestock.

Section 3. Enforcement:

Any law enforcement officer or animal warden is hereby given the authority to enforce any and all of the regulations of this article and to issue notice or court citations for violations of the regulations and controls as described herein.

Section 4. Interference with Enforcement:

No person shall interfere with, hinder or molest the animal warden in the performance of any duty of such agent, or seek to release any dog or cat in the custody of the animal warden except as herein provided.

ARTICLE 4.

DOGS AND CATS

Section 1. Destruction of Dogs and Cats Running at Large:

Dogs and cats found running at large may be destroyed.

Section 2. Vicious Dogs and Cats:

Any citizen, officer or animal warden may kill any dangerous or vicious dog or cat; and no citizen, officer or animal warden shall be liable to damages or to prosecution by reason of killing of any dangerous or vicious dog or cat.

Section 3. Vaccination and Licensing Required; Tags to be Worn:

Every person owning or having in his possession an animal as herein defined which is over four (4) months of age is required to obtain an animal license therefor, an annual vaccination against rabies, and to obtain and require to be permanently affixed to the collar of the animal a vaccination license tag.

Section 4. Vaccinations and Licensing; Vaccination License:

(a) The animal control shelter and the places officially designated by the supervisor for special rabies clinics shall be the places for persons owning, keeping or having in possession any animal required to be licensed hereunder to pay the license fee provided by this section. However, a consecutively numbered book of vaccination license receipts for annual licenses may be issued to any veterinarian by the supervisor of the animal control shelter. A veterinarian may issue such vaccination license upon payment of the fee provided herein and shall account to the supervisor of the animal control shelter on a monthly basis the fees collected by him. Such veterinarian is hereby permitted to charge any fee for

the issuance of any such vaccination license other than the license fee set out herein.

(b) The supervisor is hereby granted the exclusive authority to sponsor public clinics at any place or time of his choosing for rabies vaccination and licensing of animals and to arrange for the services of veterinarians at such clinics.

(c) The owner may take his animal to a veterinarian of his choice for all required vaccinations and licensing as herein provided.

(d) A vaccination license shall be a certificate of a veterinarian that he administered the vaccination required by this section. It shall be a permanent record and shall bear the date of vaccination, the identification of the animal by breed, color, sex and age and the vaccination tag number and the name and address of the owner. The vaccination license shall be evidence of such vaccination. A veterinarian may issue his own tags; however, this provision shall not be construed to permit substitution of the veterinarian's tags for those which are obtained from the supervisor of the animal control shelter.

(e) A vaccination license tag shall be issued to the owner at the time of the issuance of the vaccination licensing. The fee for the license and tagging of the animal at a public clinic shall be five dollars (\$5.00) per animal, with three (\$3.00) dollars of this fee to be paid to the veterinarian for his services and two (\$2.00) dollars to be given up to the animal control program for maintenance and operation of the program. At such clinics, the veterinarian shall provide the vaccine; and the animal control program shall provide the licensing certificates, tags and administrative personnel. Veterinarians administering a vaccine at a

veterinary hospital shall deliver to the animal control program the amount of two (\$2.00) dollars for each animal vaccinated and licensed as provided for herein.

(f) In the event of loss or destruction of a license tag, replacement tags shall be available for payment of one (\$1.00) dollar fee, upon satisfactory proof that the animal in question was properly licensed.

(g) The vaccination license tag issued to the owner at the time of issuance of the vaccination license shall be securely affixed to the collar of the animal, and the collar of said animal shall be worn at all times. However, the wearing of a collar and a vaccination tag shall not be required for any animal that is in the Town for fifteen (15) days or less for the purposes of shows, exhibitions, field trials and breeding. But at no time shall such animal be allowed to run free on any property, public or private, except on the premises where such event is being held or in the field hunting under the direct and personal supervision of their owners or keepers.

Section 4. Expiration of Registration:

The registration required by this article shall expire at the end of each calendar year.

Section 5. Confinement of rabies-suspected animals:

(a) No animal that has rabies or symptoms thereof or has been suspected of having rabies or symptoms thereof shall be allowed at any time on the streets or public ways of the Town.

(b) The owner of any animal that has rabies or symptoms thereof or has been exposed to rabies or has bitten anyone, whether such animal be on or about public or private property, whether vaccinated or not, shall hereby notify the supervisor or animal warden of such animal and, on demand, turn over and convey the

animal to them for the purposes of observation. If the owner so chooses, and upon sufficient evidence thereto.

ARTICLE 5.

IMPOUNDMENT

Section 1. General Provisions:

(a) Any animal which is not registered or inoculated as required herein shall be impounded by the animal warden. Any animal which is running at Large in violation hereof may be impounded by the animal warden.

(b) If the animal is impounded, it shall be the duty of the animal warden to take up and take charge of said animal and take it to an animal control shelter, there to be impounded and detained for a period of not less than five (5) calendar days. Unless the animal is claimed by its owner in person within the above-stated time, all rights to the animal by the owner shall be forfeited, and title shall pass to the Town.

Section 2. Notice:

(a) As soon as possible after an animal has been impounded at an animal control shelter, it shall be the duty of the person in charge of such shelter to notify the person to whom any license or registration tag was issued for the animal by letter, postal card or telephone. The mailing of such letter or postal card shall be deemed sufficient notice, whether the person addressed received the same or not.

Section 3. Disposition:

(a) The owner of any impounded animal may, upon presentation of satisfactory proof of ownership, reclaim the animal upon payment of the following charges and/or fees where applicable, provided such animal has not bitten anyone or has rabies or is suspected of rabies, where in such case the animal must be held for at least ten (10) days for observation:

(1) A minimum impounding fee of FOUR AND NO/100 (\$4.00) DOLLARS;

(2) A minimum boarding fee of THREE AND NO/100 (\$3.00) DOLLARS for each day the animal has been impounded;

(3) Payment of the current year vaccination license fee as provided for herein if the animal has no valid license;

(4) Any required registration or inoculation fee.

(b) An animal shall not be redeemed if it is not inoculated and registered as required herein.

(c) Any animal impounded and not reclaimed by the original owner within the prescribed five-day period may be offered for sale by the Town for the amount of the accrued fees against the animal. The original owner of the animal may reclaim the animal within thirty (30) days of the sale, if all fees and costs of maintenance are reimbursed to the new owner.

(d) Any animal impounded and taken to an animal control shelter but not reclaimed or sold may be disposed of in a humane manner if the required time as herein described as elapsed. The animal shall be destroyed in a humane manner unless the prospects of finding it a home or for any other reason justifies the detention for a longer period of time.

(e) Any animal which is diseased or severely injured at the time of impoundment may, at the discretion of the person in charge of the animal shelter, be destroyed in a humane manner immediately and without waiting the prescribed five (5) days. This action may be taken if in the opinion of the person in charge of the animal shelter its condition is such that imminent destruction is necessary, as a humane gesture, and for the protection of other animals with which the animal may come into contact.

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, BEATRICE YOCKEY, duly appointed Town Clerk for the Town of Youngsville, do certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of Ordinance No. 164 adopted by the Town Council on the 14 day of February, 1985.

Youngsville, Louisiana, this 7 day of March, 1985.

Beatrice Yockey
BEATRICE YOCKEY
TOWN CLERK