

Chapter 6.08

DANGEROUS ANIMALS

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6.08.010 Restraint of dangerous animal.

No dangerous domestic animal shall be permitted within the city limits unless kept securely confined at all times within the owner's premises, so that the animal is unable to leave the premises, and so that the animal cannot reach postmen, delivery boys and others who may have occasion for lawful entry upon the owner's premises in the course of their work.

(Ord. 84-22, Repealed & Replaced, 10/11/1984)

6.08.020 Impoundment of dangerous animals.

- A. The city, by its properly constituted officers, shall impound any dangerous animal when the animal is:
 - 1. Found to be at large or harbored under circumstances constituting a violation of this chapter;
 - 2. Damaging property of a person other than the owner of the animal, except in defense of the property of its owner or members of its owner's household;
 - 3. Causing bodily harm to any person; or
 - 4. Acting in such manner as to cause reasonable apprehension of bodily harm by persons or animals not within or upon the premises of the dangerous animal's owner.
- B. When an animal believed to be dangerous has been impounded, the chief of police shall give written notice to the animal's owner; informing him of his opportunity for a hearing before the police chief within five (5) days of receipt of the notice. The police chief shall, if timely requested by the owner, hold a hearing. The police chief shall determine whether the animal is dangerous, as defined by Section 6.01.010(C) of this title or (in case of dogs) AS 03.55.020 and 03.55.030. If the animal is determined not to be dangerous, it shall be released to its owners. If the animal is determined to be dangerous, it may be killed by any humane method approved by a veterinarian.

(Ord. 86-6, Amended, 02/13/1986; Ord. 84-22, Repealed & Replaced, 10/11/1984)

6.08.030 Capture methods.

The use of tranquilizer guns and serum is an approved, humane method for the capture of dangerous animals.

(Ord. 84-22, Repealed & Replaced, 10/11/1984)

6.08.040 Emergency situations.

- A. If any city police officer has probable cause to believe that any person is in imminent danger of bodily harm because of a dangerous animal, such animal may be slain by the police officer in accordance with AS 03.55.010 and 03.55.020.

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- B. If any person is confronted with a situation where a dangerous animal is about to attack him, a member of his family or any other person, that person may take such protective measures as may be reasonably necessary to prevent bodily harm to any person, including slaying the animal pursuant to AS 03.55.010 and 03.55.020. Such events shall immediately be reported to the police department.
- C. An officer in hot pursuit of an animal known or reasonably suspected of being dangerous to persons other than wrongful trespassers upon his owner's premises, may enter the owner's premises and demand possession of such animal. If after such request the owner or keeper of the animal refuses to deliver the animal to the officer, and the officer cannot with reasonable safety catch the animal, he may cause the animal to be killed pursuant to AS 03.55.010 and 03.55.020; provided, however, such officer shall not enter the owner's premises without a valid warrant.

(Ord. 84-22, Repealed & Replaced, 10/11/1984)

6.08.050 Biting dogs.

- A. Any dog which has twice engaged in biting a person is hereby declared to be a nuisance, and shall not be kept within the city. If any such dog is found within the city, it shall be impounded and disposed of as an unredeemed dog, and the owner shall have no right to redeem such dog. The method of disposal shall be the same as that in Section 6.04.060 above, for dogs impounded over three (3) times in any calendar year.
- B. Upon taking possession of a dog known to have bitten a person or displayed symptoms of rabies, any policeman or authorized city employee shall forthwith convey the dog to the nearest veterinarian, where the dog shall be securely chained or confined for a period of at least fifteen (15) days. When the dog is delivered to a veterinarian, the city shall give notice to the dog's owner concerning the dog's confinement, including the name and location of the veterinarian. Upon receipt of such dog, the veterinarian shall submit to the chief of police a certificate stating that such dog either shows no symptoms of rabies or does show symptoms of rabies. At the expiration of fifteen (15) days of confinement and upon release of such dog, the veterinarian shall submit to the chief of police a second certificate stating that the dog does not have rabies and has been released. The cost of maintaining the dog in the veterinarian's care shall be borne by the dog's owner, except where the owner cannot be ascertained, and then the city shall pay for such observation and care.
- C. It is unlawful for the owner of any dog, when notified that such dog has bitten any person or has so injured any person as to cause an abrasion of the skin, to sell or give away such dog or permit such dog to be taken beyond the limits of the city except to a veterinarian, and it shall be the duty of the dog's owner, upon receiving notice of such biting event, to immediately place such dog with a duly licensed veterinarian where such animal shall be confined for a period of at least fifteen (15) days, or to deliver such animal to any police officer for such placement. Upon authorization of a licensed veterinarian, with the consent of the police chief, such dog may be released to the custody of its owner upon the owner's undertaking to keep the same securely chained and confined to the owner's premises and segregated from any other animals during such observation period. The cost of maintaining the dog in the veterinarian's care shall be borne by the dog's owner.
- D. Any dog which has been determined by a veterinarian to have rabies shall be destroyed, by any humane method approved by a veterinarian.

(Ord. 86-6, Amended, 02/13/1986; Ord. 84-22, Repealed & Replaced, 10/11/1984)