

CHAPTER 50

NUISANCE ABATEMENT PROCEDURE

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50.01 DEFINITION OF NUISANCE. Whatever is injurious to health, indecent, or unreasonably offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property so as essentially to interfere unreasonably with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property is a nuisance.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.1)

50.02 NUISANCES ENUMERATED. The following subsections include, but do not limit, the conditions which are deemed to be nuisances in the City:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.2)

1. **Offensive Smells.** Erecting, continuing or using any building or other place for the exercise of any trade, employment or manufacture, which, by occasioning noxious exhalations, unreasonably offensive smells, or other annoyances, becomes injurious and dangerous to the health, comfort or property of individuals or the public.
2. **Filth or Noisome Substance.** Causing or suffering any offal, filth or noisome substance to be collected or to remain in any place to the prejudice of others.
3. **Impeding Passage of Navigable River.** Obstructing or impeding without legal authority the passage of any navigable river, harbor or collection of water.
4. **Water Pollution.** Corrupting or rendering unwholesome or impure the water of any river, stream or pond, or unlawfully diverting the same from its natural course or state, to the injury or prejudice of others.
5. **Drainage.** Effluent from a septic tank or drainfield or ponding of polluted water over an overloaded or non-operating drainfield or to a waterway or the ground surface.

6. Blocking Public and Private Ways. Obstructing or encumbering, by fences, buildings or otherwise, the public roads, private ways, streets, alleys, commons, landing places or burying grounds.
7. Billboards. Billboards, signboards and advertising signs, whether erected and constructed on public or private property, which so obstruct and impair the view of any portion or part of a public street, avenue, highway, boulevard or alley or of a railroad or street railway track as to render dangerous the use thereof. **(See also Section 62.08)**
8. Storing of Flammable Junk. Depositing or storing of flammable junk, such as old rags, rope, cordage, rubber, bones and paper, by dealers in such articles within the fire limits of the City, unless in a building of fireproof construction. **(See also Chapter 51)**
9. Air Pollution. Emission of dense smoke, noxious fumes or fly ash.
10. Weeds, Brush. Dense growth of all weeds, vines, brush or other vegetation in the City so as to constitute a health, safety or fire hazard.
11. Dutch Elm Disease. Trees infected with Dutch Elm Disease. **(See also Chapter 151)**
12. Abandoned Wells. All abandoned wells and cisterns not securely covered or secured from public use.
13. Airport Air Space. Any object or structure hereafter erected within one thousand (1,000) feet of the limits of any municipal or regularly established airport or landing place, which may endanger or obstruct aerial navigation including take-off and landing, unless such object or structure constitutes a proper use or enjoyment of the land on which the same is located.
14. Houses of Ill Fame. Houses of ill fame, kept for the purpose of prostitution and lewdness; gambling houses; places resorted to by persons participating in criminal gang activity prohibited by Chapter 723A of the Code of Iowa or places resorted to by persons using controlled substances, as defined in Section 124.101 of the Code of Iowa, in violation of law, or houses where drunkenness, quarreling, fighting or breaches of the peace are carried on or permitted to the disturbance of others.
15. Signs Over Sidewalks. Any sign, marquee or awning which is in an unsafe condition or which overhangs any sidewalk less than seven (7) feet above the sidewalk surface; or any advertisements or signs affixed to any building, wall, fence, sidewalk, street or other private or public property without permission of the owner thereof. **(See also Section 136.12)**

16. **Unauthorized Traffic Control Devices.** All unauthorized signs, signals, markings or devices which purport to be or may be mistaken as official traffic control devices placed or maintained upon or in view of any public highway or railway crossing.

17. **Limbs Over Sidewalks.** All limbs of trees which project over a public sidewalk less than eight (8) feet above the surface thereof or less than fifteen (15) feet above the surface of a public street. **(See also Section 151.03)**

18. **Abandoned Refrigerators.** All abandoned refrigerators or iceboxes from which the doors and other covers have not been removed or which are not equipped with a device for opening from the inside by pushing only with the strength of a small child. **(See also Section 41.06)**

19. **Excavations and Openings.** All open and unguarded pits, wells, excavations or unused basements freely accessible from any public street, alley or sidewalks.

50.03 OTHER CONDITIONS. The following chapters of this Code of Ordinances contain regulations prohibiting or restricting other conditions which are deemed to be nuisances:

1. **Junk and Junk Vehicles (See Chapter 51)**
2. **Dangerous Buildings (See Chapter 145)**
3. **Storage and Disposal of Solid Waste (See Chapter 105)**
4. **Trees (See Chapter 151)**
5. **Zoning Regulations (See Chapter 165)**

50.04 NUISANCES PROHIBITED. The creation or maintenance of a nuisance is prohibited, and a nuisance, public or private, may be abated in the manner provided for in this chapter or State law.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 657.3)

50.05 NUISANCE ABATEMENT. Whenever the Mayor or other authorized municipal officer finds that a nuisance exists, such officer shall cause to be served upon the property owner a written notice to abate the nuisance within a reasonable time after notice. †

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[3h])

† **EDITOR'S NOTE:** A suggested form of notice for the abatement of nuisances is included in the appendix of this Code of Ordinances. Caution is urged in the use of this administrative abatement procedure, particularly where cost of abatement is more than minimal or where there is doubt as to whether or not a nuisance in fact exist. If compliance is not secured following notice and hearings, we recommend you review the situation with your attorney before proceeding with abatement and assessment of costs. Your attorney may recommend proceedings in court under Chapter 657 of the Code of Iowa rather than this procedure.

50.06 NOTICE TO ABATE: CONTENTS. The notice to abate shall contain:

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[3h])

1. Description of Nuisance. A description of what constitutes the nuisance.
2. Location of Nuisance. The location of the nuisance.
3. Acts Necessary to Abate. A statement of the act or acts necessary to abate the nuisance.
4. Reasonable Time. A reasonable time within which to complete the abatement.
5. Assessment of City Costs. A statement that if the nuisance or condition is not abated as directed and no request for hearing is made within the time prescribed, the City will abate it and assess the costs against such person.

50.07 METHOD OF SERVICE. The notice may be in the form of an ordinance or sent by certified mail to the property owner.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[3h])

50.08 REQUEST FOR HEARING. Any person ordered to abate a nuisance may have a hearing with the Council as to whether a nuisance exists. A request for a hearing must be made in writing and delivered to the Clerk within the time stated in the notice, or it will be conclusively presumed that a nuisance exists and it must be abated as ordered. The hearing will be before the Council at a time and place fixed by the Council. The findings of the Council shall be conclusive and, if a nuisance is found to exist, it shall be ordered abated within a reasonable time under the circumstances.

50.09 ABATEMENT IN EMERGENCY. If it is determined that an emergency exists by reason of the continuing maintenance of the nuisance or condition, the City may perform any action which may be required under this chapter without prior notice. The City shall assess the costs as provided in Section 50.11 after notice to the property owner under the applicable provisions of Sections 50.05, 50.06 and 50.07 and hearing as provided in Section 50.08.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[3h])

50.10 ABATEMENT BY CITY. If the person notified to abate a nuisance or condition neglects or fails to abate as directed, the City may perform the required action to abate, keeping an accurate account of the expense incurred. The itemized expense account shall be filed with the Clerk who shall pay such expenses on behalf of the City.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[3h])

50.11 COLLECTION OF COSTS. The Clerk shall send a statement of the total expense incurred by certified mail to the property owner who has failed to abide by the notice to abate, and if the amount shown by the statement has not been paid within one month, the Clerk shall certify the costs to the County Treasurer and such costs shall then be collected with, and in the same manner, as general property taxes.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[3h])

50.12 INSTALLMENT PAYMENT OF COST OF ABATEMENT. If the amount expended to abate the nuisance or condition exceeds one hundred dollars (\$100.00), the City may permit the assessment to be paid in up to ten (10) annual installments, to be paid in the same manner and with the same interest rates provided for assessments against benefited property under State law.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.13)

50.13 FAILURE TO ABATE. Any person causing or maintaining a nuisance who shall fail or refuse to abate or remove the same within the reasonable time required and specified in the notice to abate is in violation of this Code of Ordinances.

CHAPTER 51

JUNK AND JUNK VEHICLES

51.01 Definitions

51.02 Junk and Junk Vehicles Prohibited

51.03 Junk and Junk Vehicles a Nuisance

51.04 Exceptions

51.05 Notice to Abate

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

1. "Junk" means all old or scrap copper, brass, lead, or any other non-ferrous metal; old or discarded rope, rags, batteries, paper, trash, rubber, debris, waste or used lumber, or salvaged wood; dismantled vehicles, machinery and appliances or parts of such vehicles, machinery or appliances; iron, steel or other old or scrap ferrous materials; old or discarded glass, tinware, plastic or old or discarded household goods or hardware. Neatly stacked firewood located on a side yard or a rear yard is not considered junk.

2. "Junk vehicle" means any vehicle legally placed in storage with the County Treasurer or unlicensed and which has any of the following characteristics:

A. Broken Glass. Any vehicle with a broken or cracked windshield, window, headlight or tail light, or any other cracked or broken glass.

B. Broken, Loose or Missing Part. Any vehicle with a broken, loose or missing fender, door, bumper, hood, steering wheel or trunk lid.

C. Habitat for Nuisance Animals or Insects. Any vehicle which has become the habitat for rats, mice, or snakes, or any other vermin or insects.

D. Flammable Fuel. Any vehicle which contains gasoline or any other flammable fuel.

E. Inoperable. Any motor vehicle which lacks an engine or two or more wheels or other structural parts, rendering said motor vehicle totally inoperable, or which cannot be moved under its own power or has not been used as an operating vehicle for a period of thirty (30) days or more.

F. Defective or Obsolete Condition. Any other vehicle which, because of its defective or obsolete condition, in any other way constitutes a threat to the public health and safety.

Mere licensing of such vehicle shall not constitute a defense to the finding that the vehicle is a junk vehicle.

3. "Vehicle" means every device in, upon, or by which a person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway or street, excepting devices moved by human power or used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks, and includes without limitation a motor vehicle, automobile, truck, motorcycle, tractor, buggy, wagon, farm machinery, or any combination thereof.

51.02 JUNK AND JUNK VEHICLES PROHIBITED. It is unlawful for any person to store, accumulate, or allow to remain on any private property within the corporate limits of the City any junk or junk vehicle.

51.03 JUNK AND JUNK VEHICLES A NUISANCE. It is hereby declared that any junk or junk vehicle located upon private property, unless excepted by Section 51.04, constitutes a threat to the health and safety of the citizens and is a nuisance within the meaning of Section 657.1 of the Code of Iowa. If any junk or junk vehicle is kept upon private property in violation hereof, the owner of or person occupying the property upon which it is located shall be prima facie liable for said violation.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[3a])

51.04 EXCEPTIONS. The provisions of this chapter do not apply to any junk or a junk vehicle stored within:

1. Structure. A garage or other enclosed structure; or
2. Salvage Yard. An auto salvage yard or junk yard lawfully operated within the City.

51.05 NOTICE TO ABATE. Upon discovery of any junk or junk vehicle located upon private property in violation of Section 51.03, the City shall within five (5) days initiate abatement procedures as outlined in Chapter 50 of this Code of Ordinances.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 364.12[3a])

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CHAPTER 55

ANIMAL PROTECTION AND CONTROL

55.01 Definitions	55.10 Vicious or Dangerous Animals
55.02 Animal Neglect	55.11 Rabies Vaccination
55.03 Livestock Neglect	55.12 Owner's Duty
55.04 Abandonment of Cats and Dogs	55.13 Confinement
55.05 Livestock	55.14 At Large: Impoundment
55.06 At Large Prohibited	55.15 Disposition of Animals
55.07 Releasing or Molesting Animals	55.16 Ownership of Dogs and Cats
55.08 Damage or Interference	55.17 Pet Awards Prohibited
55.09 Annoyance or Disturbance	

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:
 - A. Under the control of a competent person;
 - B. Restrained within a motor vehicle;
 - C. Housed in a veterinary hospital or kennel; or
 - D. Attached to a leash or chain not more than six (6) feet in length and of sufficient strength to restrain the animal when said leash or chain is held by a person competent to restrain and control the animal off the premises.
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 an animal to run at large within the corporate limits of the City. The owner shall be fined in the amount of \$100 for the first offense, \$250 for second offense, \$500 for the third offense and all subsequent offenses. These fines will be applied whether or not such animal is seized and impounded.

(Ord. 129 – Aug. 11 Supp.)

55.07 RELEASING OR MOLESTING ANIMALS. Any person except the owner of a domestic animal or an authorized agent who willfully opens any door or gate on any private premises or unleashes such domestic animal for the purpose of enticing or enabling such animal to be at large is in violation of the provisions of this chapter. It is unlawful for any person to willfully molest, provoke or mistreat any domestic animal while it is confined on its owner's premises.

55.08 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.

55.09 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. The owner shall be fined in the amount of \$100 for the first offense, \$250 for second offense, \$500 for the third offense and all subsequent offenses. These fines will be applied whether or not such animal is seized and impounded.

(Ord. 129 – Aug. 11 Supp.)

55.10 VICIOUS OR DANGEROUS ANIMALS. It is unlawful for any person to harbor or keep any vicious or dangerous animal within the City. An animal is deemed to be vicious or dangerous when it has attacked or bitten any person without provocation, or when propensity to attack, bite or endanger persons exists and is known or ought reasonably to be known to the owner. The owner shall be fined in the amount of \$100 for the first offense, \$250 for second offense, \$500 for the third offense and all subsequent offenses. These fines will be applied whether or not such animal is seized and impounded.

(Ord. 129 – Aug. 11 Supp.)

55.11 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)

55.12 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)

55.13 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)

55.14 AT LARGE: IMPOUNDMENT. Animals found at large in violation of this chapter shall be seized and impounded by the Police Department, 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. Fees for impoundment are set by resolution of the Council.

55.15 DISPOSITION OF ANIMALS. When an animal has been apprehended and impounded, written notice shall be provided to the owner within two (2) days after impoundment, if the owner's name and current address can reasonably be determined by accessing a tag or other device that is on or part of the animal. Impounded animals may be recovered by the owner upon payment of impounding costs, and if an unvaccinated dog, by having it immediately vaccinated. If the owner fails to redeem the animal within seven (7) days from the date that the notice is mailed, or if the owner cannot be located within seven days, the animal shall be disposed of in accordance with law or destroyed by euthanasia.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 351.37, 351.41)

55.16 OWNERSHIP OF DOGS AND CATS. Any person who feeds or harbors any dog or cat shall be considered the owner of such dog or cat, as defined herein, and shall be subject to the requirements of this chapter.

55.17 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 event.
 - 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.

(Ch. 56 - Ord. 130 - Aug. 11 Supp.)