

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 92 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED "ANIMALS", MAKING IT UNLAWFUL FOR A DOG TO ATTACK OR BITE ANOTHER ANIMAL OR HUMAN BEING.

WHEREAS, Chapter 92 of the Code of Ordinances establishes guidelines and regulations relating to animals; and

WHEREAS, it has been brought to the attention of City staff that the existing animal regulations do not adequately provide safeguards for animals or humans relating to dog bite incidents and therefore Chapter 92 should be updated.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA:

Section 1: That the foregoing "WHEREAS" clauses are ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are incorporated in this Ordinance.

Section 2: That Chapter 92 of the Code of Ordinances entitled "Animals" is hereby amended as follows¹:

TITLE IX: GENERAL REGULATIONS

* * *

CHAPTER 92. ANIMALS

* * *

§ 92.21 DOG BITES.

(A) It shall be unlawful for a dog to attack or bite another animal or human being, without provocation, and the owner of the dog shall be responsible. For purposes of this section, **OWNER** shall mean any person, firm, corporation, or organization possessing, harboring, keeping, or having control or custody of a dog, or, if the dog is owned by a person under the age of 18 years, that person's parent or guardian.

¹ Words in ~~struck-through~~ type are deletions from existing text; underscored words are additions to existing text.

(AB) In the event any person is bitten by a dog within the city limits, it shall become the duty of said person and/or the owner of said dog with knowledge thereof, to report said accident to the Police Department or County Health Department within 24 hours thereafter.

(BC) (1) Any dog reported to have bitten a person shall be kept in quarantine for such period of time as may be designated by the County Health Officer for the purpose of testing said dog for disease.

(2) Any dog suspected of being infected with rabies shall be released by its owner or custodian to the County Health Officer for laboratory analysis.

(3) No liability for compensation to the owner of said dog shall attach to the city by virtue of any procedure by said County Health Officer.

* * *

Section 3: That it is the intention of the City Commission and it is ordained that the provisions of this Ordinance shall be made a part of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Hollywood, Florida, and the sections of this Code may be renumbered to accomplish such intention.

Section 4: That if any word, phrase, clause, subsection or section of this Ordinance is for any reason held unconstitutional or invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of any remaining portions of this Ordinance.

Section 5: That all sections or parts of sections of the Code of Ordinances, all ordinances or parts of ordinances, and all resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 6: That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage and adoption.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA, AMENDING CHAPTER 92 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES ENTITLED "ANIMALS" MAKING IT UNLAWFUL FOR A DOG TO ATTACK OR BITE ANOTHER ANIMAL OR HUMAN BEING.

Advertised _____, 2023.

PASSED on first reading this _____ day of _____, 2023.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on second reading this _____ day of _____, 2023.

JOSH LEVY, MAYOR

ATTEST:

PATRICIA A. CERNY, MMC
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DOUGLAS R. GONZALES
CITY ATTORNEY