

LICENSING AND VACCINATION OF DOGS

Adopted August 10, 1964--- See Volume 6, pages 466-468

AN ORDINANCE DEFINING THE LICENSING, CONTROL, AND VACCINATION OF DOGS IN JAMES CITY COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

WHEREAS, in the judgment of the Board of Supervisors of James City County, Virginia, it is deemed necessary to adopt this ordinance in accordance with Section 15-8(5) and Section 29-183, 29-184.4, Code of Virginia.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF JAMES CITY COUNTY, VIRGINIA, AS FOLLOWS, to wit:

SECTION I. License, Tax and Vaccination:

(1) The owner or custodian of every dog over the age of six months owned, possessed or kept in James City County, will obtain a dog license, by making oral or written application with the County Treasurer.

(2) Each application must be accompanied by a certificate of vaccination by a duly licensed veterinarian, certifying that the dog has been properly vaccinated with a vaccine approved by the State Health Department. Any dog vaccinated in any year, with a type of vaccine "modified live virus", shall not be required to be vaccinated again until three years have elapsed since the date of the last vaccination with this type of vaccine.

(3) The County Treasurer will requisition dog tags of a uniform type and size, regardless of the sex of the dog. Dog tags shall be a bright conspicuous color,

(Section I, (3) cont.)

serially numbered, and color changed annually. The Treasurer will attempt to use at least five different colors of dog tags for at least five consecutive years, if five different colors are available, before the color of the tag is repeated.

The Treasurer shall keep a record of all tags sold. All unsold tags shall be recorded and the unsold tags destroyed by the Treasurer at the end of the dog tax year.

(4) The annual dog license tax in James City County, Virginia, is hereby fixed as follows:

All dogs regardless of sex	\$ 3.00
Kennel for up to 10 dogs	10.00
Kennel for 11 to 20 dogs	15.00
Kennel for over 20 dogs	25.00

The tax shall be payable to the County Treasurer by January first of each year.

(5) Any person who has not paid the dog license on any dog owned by him, or of which he is custodian by February 1st of any year, shall be fined not less than five dollars or more than ten dollars and be required to obtain proper license forthwith; unless the fine and license tax are paid immediately, the Trial Court shall order the dog destroyed by the Dog Warden. The destruction of such dog shall not relieve its owner of the fine and license tax already due; also any costs incurred by its disposal must be paid by owner.

LICENSING AND VACCINATION OF DOGS CONT.

SECTION II. Dogs to Wear Tags:

Dog license tags shall be securely fastened to a substantial collar by the owner or custodian, and the collar worn by the licensed dog. It shall be unlawful for the owner or custodian to permit any licensed dog to run or roam at large at any time without a license tag. Exemption to this section is allowed when licensed dog is engaged in lawful hunting, field trial, in the open season and accompanied by the owner or custodian.

SECTION III. Dogs Prohibited from Running at Large:

(1) Dogs are prohibited from running at large in James City County, Virginia, in each calendar year, during the period from April 15 to June 15th. During this time all dogs must be kept on a leash, or under the direct control of the owner or custodian to insure that the dog is not roaming, running or self-hunting off the property of its owner or custodian.

(2) Any dog observed or captured during this period of confinement without proper identification shall be disposed of by whatever means necessary.

(3) Any dog identified as to ownership or custodianship: If said dog can be captured, owner shall reimburse James City County at the rate of \$1.00 per day for impoundment, and a fine of from \$5.00 to \$25.00. Owners of dogs

(Section III, (3) cont.)

not impounded shall be issued a warrant for violation of this provision, each day thereafter that this ordinance is not complied, with shall constitute a separate offense.

SECTION IV. Enforcements and Appointment of Dog Warden:

In accordance with Section 29-184.2, Code of Virginia, the enforcement of the dog laws for James City County, Virginia, and the enforcement of this ordinance is vested in a dog warden and deputy dog warden, who shall be appointed pursuant to Section 29-184.2, Code of Virginia.

SECTION V. Unlicensed Dogs - Stray Dogs

(1) The dog warden and other officials appointed under the provisions of Section 29-184.2, Code of Virginia, are authorized and required to impound any dog not wearing a collar with a current dog license tag securely attached thereto as prescribed by Section II of this ordinance. Dogs will be impounded in a dog pound provided by the County for a period/^{of} five days, after notice of such impounding is posted at the Courthouse, of James City County, in Williamsburg, Virginia. Notice will state the sex and general description of the dog impounded. During this five day period, the dog may be returned to the owner or custodian, upon proof of ownership, purchase of tag and certificate of vaccination. A charge of one dollar per day for boarding the dog will be made by the owner to the Treasurer, before the dog can be released.

(Section V (1) cont.)

Impounded dogs not claimed by the owners or custodian after five days, the dog warden is authorized to dispose of these impounded dogs by giving it to the personal possession of anyone who pays the costs of impounding, vaccination and license tag. Dogs not so disposed of may be destroyed in a humane manner by the dog warden.

(2) Any dog without the proper means of identification shall be considered a stray. It shall be the duty of the dog warden, after reasonable investigation, to capture or kill any dog roaming at large of which ownership cannot be determined.

(3) Any dog captured without identification may be delivered to any person in the county who will pay license fee on said dog with the understanding that should the legal owner thereafter claim the dog and prove his ownership he may recover said dog by paying to the person to whom it was delivered by the dog warden, the amount of license fee paid by him and a reasonable fee for the keep of dog while in his possession.

SECTION VI. Dogs prohibited from destroying property, killing fowl and livestock, endangering lives, and being a nuisance:

(1) Dogs are prohibited from destroying property of any kind, killing livestock and fowl, endangering the lives and causing harm to persons, or in any way to be a nuisance, when off of the property or premises of the owner or custodian.

(Section VI cont.)

(2) Evidence of such acts by dogs as listed above in this Section, will be sufficient cause for persons having harm or damage done to them or their property to secure a warrant against owners or custodians of dogs involved and upon instruction of the County Court, will be sufficient cause for the dog or dogs involved to be seized and impounded by the Dog Warden.

(3) No dog will be released from impounding until the owner or custodian of the dog has paid the boarding charge, in accordance with Section V, and in addition presents documentary proof to the Dog Warden, that satisfactory settlement has been made with the owner of the property destroyed by the dog; or with the person whose life has been endangered or person harmed or injured by the dog, or when applicable, that positive action will be taken by the owner or custodian of the dog that will not be a nuisance.

SECTION VII. Female Dogs in Season:

It is prohibited for the owner or custodian of any female dog to permit such dog to stray from his premises while such dog is in season. Violation of this act shall be deemed unlawful and constitute a misdemeanor.

SECTION VIII. Prohibited to Abandon Dogs:

It is prohibited for any person to abandon any dog in James City County, Virginia. Violation of this act shall

(Section VIII, cont.)

be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.00.

SECTION IX. Ordinances to Remain in Effect:

"Except as provided in this ordinance, the ordinance adopted September 8, 1953, concerning dogs, as amended by the ordinance adopted November 1, 1954, on the same subject, and the ordinance adopted September 5, 1959, on the same subject, remains in full force and effect. All inconsistent provisions of said ordinances are, however, hereby repealed."