

1994-5

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AN ORDINANCE
CONTROLLING DOGS
IN THE TOWN OF PLYMOUTH

Section 1. RUNNING AT LARGE. It shall be unlawful for dogs to run at large in the Town of Plymouth at any time. Dogs shall be deemed to be running at large when found on any of the public streets, alleys, parks or other public grounds of the town, or when off the premises of the owner or person having custody of such dog. A dog shall not be deemed to be at large if under the control of a person by means of a chain, rope or cord of sufficient strength to control the action of such dog, or such other personal presence and attention as will reasonably control the conduct of said dog.

Section 2. REGULATING DOGS. It shall be unlawful to own, harbor, or keep any dog in the Town of Plymouth which: habitually pursues any vehicle upon any public street, alley or highway in the Town of Plymouth; assaults or attacks any person; or habitually barks or howls so that the peace and quiet of the neighborhood is disturbed.

Section 3. UNLICENSED DOGS. Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 174.05 all dogs over the age of five months, or dogs who will become five months of age during the licensing year must be licensed.

(a) Any unlicensed dog may be seized or impounded if found at large within the Town of Plymouth, and the fact that a dog is without a proper license tag attached to its collar shall be presumptive evidence that it is unlicensed.

(b) The Town Constable who has acted pursuant to subsection (a) above shall notify the owner personally or through the mail, if such owner be known to the officer or can be ascertained with reasonable effort. Such officer shall carefully read the "lost and found" column of the local newspapers having general circulation in the community to determine whether or not a dog is therein advertised which answers the description of any such impounded dog, and shall promptly communicate with the advertiser thereof if such be found. If such owner be unknown or cannot be ascertained, then the officer shall post written notice in three public places in the town, giving a description of the dog, stating where it is impounded and the conditions for its release within 48 hours, Sundays excepted, after such officer shall have taken said dog into his/her possession. If after 7 days the owner does not claim such dog, such officer or any party designated by the Town Chairperson shall dispose of or arrange for the disposal of the dog in a proper and humane manner. Every officer who has received a dog under this subsection shall keep a record of such dog describing the dog with reasonable certainty of identification and listing the name and address of the party to whom the dog was delivered or the manner in which the dog was otherwise disposed of. In addition, any person to whom the dog is delivered must sign a statements to that effect giving his/her name, address and the date of delivery or receipt of such dog.

(c) The conditions of release for a licensed dog shall be the reimbursement to the Town Board for any expenditures the town has incurred by impounding the dog. The conditions for the release of an unlicensed dog are the purchase of a license plus the reimbursement to the Town Board for the expenditures incurred by the town in impounding said dog.

SECTION 4. LICENSE FEE FOR DOGS. A tax is hereby imposed in the amount of \$3 for each neutered male dog and spayed female dog and \$8 for other male and female dogs. The fee shall be one half of the above amount if the dog becomes five months of age after July 1 of the license year. The license year shall begin on January 1 and end on the following December 31. All persons purchasing delinquent dog licenses after April 1 of the license year shall pay an additional \$2 per license to cover the cost of collecting such delinquent tax.

SECTION 5. DEFINITIONS. Dog as used in this chapter shall be construed to mean any domesticated member of the canine species, male or female, over the age of three months.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall be posted in three public places in the Town after its passage and shall take effect one week after proof of posting has been filed and recorded by the clerk.

TOWN OF PLYMOUTH

By: 
Town Chairman

ATTEST:


Town Clerk

Adopted: 12-6-94

Published by Posting 12-12-94