

ORDINANCE #15 DOG CONTROL ORDINANCE

Definition

The term "dog" shall mean and include all members of the canine family, or either sex and at least six (6) months of age, unless otherwise specified in the Ordinance.

Inducements to fight bark at or annoy and frighten persons.

No person shall entice, induce, urge or cause any dogs to engage in or prolong a fight in the township, and no person shall induce or cause any dog to run after, bark at, frighten or bite any person or animal lawfully passing along or standing in or on any street or highway in the town's limits.

Vicious Dogs-Revised July 6, 2010

A) No person shall own, keep or harbor any dog known by him to be vicious, dangerous or in the habit of biting or attacking persons, whether or not such dog wears a tag or muzzle. Upon satisfactory proof that such dog is herein described, the authorized police personnel may cause such dog to be impounded or disposed of in the manner provided by this article.

B) No person shall own, keep or harbor a pit bull terrier, as defined herein, or any other type of vicious dog, within the corporate limits of the Municipality.

B2) "Pit bull terrier" as used herein, means any Staffordshire Bull Terrier or American Staffordshire Terrier breed of dog, or any mixed breed of dog which contains as an element of its breeding the breed of Staffordshire Bull Terrier or American Staffordshire Terrier as to be identifiable as partially of the breed of Staffordshire Bull Terrier or American Staffordshire Terrier, by qualified veterinarian duly licensed as such by the State.

C) Any person who owns a pit bull or any other vicious dog as defined herein on the effective date of this subsection, shall be permitted to register such dog on a form to be provided at City Hall, within sixty days and, if he/she provides proper and adequate safeguards called for in this section to protect the public health, safety, and welfare as hereinbefore mentioned, and agrees to save the Municipality harmless for any damages or litigation which might arise from his/her harboring of such dogs, then that person may keep such dog within the confines of the Municipality. However, this exemption shall not apply to pit bull dogs or other vicious dogs acquired subsequent to passage of this subsection.

D) Owners of pit bulls or any other vicious dog shall be required to obtain and give a copy of proof of insurance that will cover any claims arising out of any harm to any person or property due to the animal's attack. If proof of liability insurance is not produced within 60 days of the passage of this ordinance, the animal must be removed from within the limits of the Municipality.
(revised 7/6/2010)

Noisy Dogs

No person shall own or keep within the township limits any dog which shall be, by barking, howling, crying or in any other matter whatsoever, disturb the comfort or quiet of any neighborhood.

Muzzling of Dogs

Whenever it shall appear to the town's administration that there are good reasons for believing that any dog within the township is rabid, a proclamation may be issued requiring that all dogs shall for a period

designated in that proclamation – wear good, substantial muzzles, securely attached, so as to prevent them from biting or snapping.

Impoundment of Dog Which Has Bitten a Person

Any dog, whether licensed or not, that has bitten any person shall be seized by police officials and impounded for a period of twenty one (21) days for observation to determine whether such dog has rabies. The Town Recorder or the Police Officials are authorized to secure the services of a veterinarian or a qualified laboratory to determine the presence of rabies. Should it be ascertained that the dog has rabies; either of these persons is authorized to cause the animal to be disposed of. The owner of the dog shall be required to pay the expense of maintaining such dog for such period of time at the rate of \$ 15.00 per day PLUS such reasonable fee or charge as may be made to ascertain presence of rabies in the dog. If found to be free of rabies such dog shall be returned to the owner upon payment of the fees herein provided.

Dogs Running at Large Not Permitted

The owner of a dog or a person harboring or keeping a dog shall not allow such animal to roam at large in the Town. The owner or person harboring or keeping a dog shall confine such dog at their premises, as applicable, and no person shall take any dog onto the streets, sidewalks or public places in the Town unless the dog shall be on leash.

Removal of Dogs from Public Gatherings

No person shall keep a dog at a public gathering after any humane officer or other officer of the law has determined that the presence or the conduct of the dog may jeopardize the health, safety or welfare of any person attending the gathering. Any such dog shall be promptly removed from such public place by its owner or keeper upon oral notification by the said officer.

Penalties for the Violation of Provisions of This Ordinance

Whoever shall violate any provision of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction, be fined \$ 50.00. For the first violation, and upon conviction of a second or subsequent violation, such person shall be fined from \$ 100.00 to \$ 500.00, and in addition to such fine may be imprisoned up to a term of 5 days.

This Ordinance approved by the West Hamlin Town Council on September 10, 2007.

Attest: _____
ALBEN R. DUVALL, MAYOR

JO ANNA CARDWELL, RECORDER

Revised Ordinance First Reading: SEPTEMBER 7, 2010

Revised Ordinance Seconded Reading: NOVEMBER 1, 2010
The revised ordinance approved and adopted NOVEMBER 1, 2010.

Attest: _____
MYRL GUE, MAYOR

Jo Ann Cardwell, Recorder

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