

ORDINANCE NO. 16-4252

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Decatur, Alabama (the "Council") as follows:

Section 1. That Section 4-40 of the Code of Decatur, Alabama is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 4-40. - Requirements.

(a) Prior to the adoption of an animal from the animal shelter the city approved adoption agreement must be completed. The director or his representative has the right to deny the request to adopt an animal if he or she feels that the person is unable to provide a suitable home to care for the animal properly and prevent it from becoming a nuisance.

(b) Upon approval to adopt an animal from the animal shelter, the required adoption agreement must be signed. Failure to agree to the terms of the adoption agreement shall be grounds for disqualification of that person to adopt an animal.

(c) All dogs and cats which are adopted through the animal shelter shall be surgically altered to prevent reproduction of that animal, before the animal can go home with its adopter. The fee for spaying or neutering animals will be collected according to the fee schedule set by the director or shelter manager. This fee is in addition to the established adoption fee and any rabies vaccination fee. The animals will be transported by Decatur Animal Services Personnel to and from a local veterinarian for sterilization and rabies vaccination.

(d) An adoption fee will be collected according to the fee schedule set by the director or shelter manager. In addition to the adoption fee, if a dog or cat is not currently vaccinated, the adopting person shall pay a fee for the rabies vaccination according to the fee schedule set by the director or shelter manager. The issuance of the receipt from the Decatur Animal Services for the payment of the fees shall serve as proof of payment for the veterinarian's knowledge. The adopting person shall present the animal and the receipt to a veterinarian within 45 days for the rabies vaccination, or the receipt becomes null and void.

(e) The director or shelter manager has the right to waive the adoption fee for a legitimate 501(c)(3) rescue organization that has veterinarian references, and that fills out any required forms to be filed and maintained at the shelter. If the animal has not been spayed or neutered, there will be a fee charged for the sterilization of said animal according to the fee schedule set by the director or shelter manager; and also a fee will be charged for a rabies vaccination before the animal will be released to the rescue organization. After an animal is placed on the adoption floor it must remain there 30 days before it is eligible to be removed for the use of a legitimate rescue organization."

Section 2. That subdivision (b) of Section 4-1 of the Code of Decatur, Alabama is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(b)

The owner of any impounded dog, puppy, cat or kitten may appear at the animal shelter at any time before such dog, puppy, cat or kitten is humanely destroyed, sold or otherwise done away with, and identify such dog, puppy, cat or kitten and after such identification he shall receive such dog, puppy, cat or kitten from the pound master with a written warning for the first day of

boarding plus payment of a Ten (\$10) Dollar boarding fee for each day or fraction thereof that the dog, puppy, cat or kitten is kept. On the second offense that the dog, puppy, cat, or kitten is impounded and any time thereafter it is impounded, the owner before receiving the animal back shall pay the sum of Thirty-Five (\$35) Dollars redemption fee for the first day of boarding plus Ten (\$10) Dollars additional boarding fee for each subsequent day or fraction thereof that the animal is kept. The director or shelter manager has the authority to work with animal owners concerning the redemption fees or boarding fees owed."

Section 3. This Ordinance shall become effective on April 1, 2016.


ADOPTED this 7th day of March 2016.

APPROVED this 9th day of March 2016



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk