

Adopted by City Council on November 20, 2017

**AN ORDINANCE
AMENDING AND REORDAINING SECTION 4-37
OF ARTICLE III OF CHAPTER 4 (ANIMALS AND FOWL) TO
ESTABLISH A LIFETIME DOG LICENSE**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council for the City of Charlottesville, Virginia, that Section 4-37 of Article III of Chapter 4 of the Charlottesville City Code, 1990, as amended, are hereby amended and reordained, as follows:

ARTICLE III. DOGS GENERALLY

Sec. 4-36. License—Required.

It shall be unlawful and a Class 4 misdemeanor for any person to own or keep within the city any dog four (4) months old or older for which a current license has not been secured as provided by the laws of the state.

Sec. 4-37. Same—Year and tax.

(a) ~~Dog licenses shall run from January 1 to December 31, inclusive, and~~ The dog license tax, payable at the office of the city treasurer, shall be as follows:

- (1) ~~For an unsexed female or male dog, four dollars (\$4.00).~~ For any individual dog, a lifetime license tax of ten dollars (\$10.00).
- (2) ~~For any dog not spayed or neutered, ten dollars (\$10.00).~~
- (3) ~~For a kennel of twenty (20) dogs, twenty dollars (\$20.00)~~ annually.
- (4) ~~For a kennel of fifty (50) dogs, thirty-five dollars (\$35.00)~~ annually.

(b) The lifetime license shall be valid only as long as the animal's owner resides in the City of Charlottesville and the dog's rabies vaccination is kept current. A fee of one dollar (\$1.00) will be charged for replacement of a dog license that is lost or stolen. The license for a kennel shall run from January 1 to December 31, inclusive. A dog license may be purchased for a three year period, and the license tax, payable at the office of the city treasurer, shall be twelve dollars (\$12.00) for an unsexed female or male dog, or thirty dollars (\$30.00) for any dog not spayed or neutered. The three year license shall expire on December 31 of the third calendar year, or on the last day of the month in which the rabies vaccination of the licensed animal expires, whichever occurs first.

(c) No license tax shall be levied on any dog that is trained and serves as a guide dog for a blind person or that is trained and serves as a hearing dog for a deaf or hearing impaired person or that is trained and serves as a service dog for a mobility-impaired person. As used in this section, "hearing dog" means a dog trained to alert its owner by touch to sounds of danger and sounds to which the owner should respond, and "service dog" means a dog trained to accompany its owner for the purpose of carrying items, retrieving objects, pulling a wheelchair or other such activities of service or support.

State Law reference— Similar provisions Virginia Code §§ 3.2-6527 – 3.2-6536