

**AN ORDINANCE BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF CENTERVILLE, GEORGIA AMENDING CHAPTER 8 “ANIMALS” IN ACCORDANCE WITH DIRECTION FROM THE HOUSTON COUNTY DANGEROUS DOG HEARING BOARD; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the City of Centerville may, as allowed by the Georgia Constitution and the Laws of the State of Georgia and as authorized by City Code Section 1-5(b) “Amendments to Code”, amend the Centerville Code of Ordinances; and

**WHEREAS**, the joint county/city dangerous dog hearing board has recommended additional changes to the unified responsible dog ownership ordinance; then

**THEREFORE**, be it ordained that the Centerville Code of Ordinances, Chapter 8, Article III is hereby amended as follows:

## **ANIMALS**

### **ARTICLE III. Responsible Dog Ownership\***

**(Definitions) Subparagraph 1 of the definition of “Dangerous dog” shall now read as follows:**

1. Causes a substantial puncture of a person’s skin or the skin of a pet of a person by teeth without causing serious injury; provided, however, that a nip, scratch, or abrasion shall not be sufficient to classify a dog as dangerous under this subparagraph.

**The definition of “Vicious dog” shall now read as follows:**

*‘Vicious dog’* means a dog that inflicts serious injury on a person or the pet of a person or causes serious injury to a person or the pet of a person resulting from reasonable attempts to escape from the dog’s attack.

**Sec. 8-80 is deleted in its entirety and adding a new Sec. 8-80 as follows:**

**Sec. 8-80. Procedures for classification.**

Provisions pertaining to procedures for classification of a dog as a dangerous or vicious dog shall be applied in accordance with O.C.G.A. §4-8-23, as amended.

**Sec. 8-81 is deleted in its entirety and adding a new Sec. 8-81 as follows:**

**Sec. 8-81. Duties of owner; registration fee.**

Provisions pertaining to the requirements for possessing dangerous or vicious dogs shall be applied in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§4-8-27 and 4-8-28 except that the owner of a classified dog shall be required to provide the City with evidence that: (a) a microchip containing an identification number capable of being scanned has been injected under the skin between the shoulder blades of the classified dog; and (b) evidence that the classified dog has been spayed or neutered. Also, each owner of a dangerous dog or vicious dog shall be charged an annual registration fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

**Sec. 8-82 is deleted in its entirety and adding a new Sec. 8-82 as follows:**

**Sec. 8-82. Confinement.**

Provisions pertaining to restrictions on permitting dangerous or vicious dogs to be outside a proper enclosure shall be applied in accordance with O.C.G.A. §4-8-29 as amended except that it shall be unlawful for an owner of a dangerous dog to permit the dog to be off the owner's property unless the dog is working or training as a hunting dog, herding dog, or predator control on property owned by the animal's owner or on private property with specific written permission from the owner of the private property for those activities.

**Sec. 8-84 is deleted in its entirety and adding a new Sec. 8-84 as follows:**

**Sec. 8-84. Liability.**

Under no circumstances shall the City or its employees or officials be held liable for any damages to any person or the pet of any person who suffers an injury inflicted by a dog as a result of a failure to enforce the provisions of this article.

**THEREFORE**, all ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are expressly repealed; and

**THEREFORE**, if any section, clause, sentence or phrase of this ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, then said holding shall in no way effect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance; and

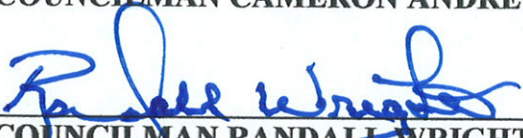
**THEREFORE**, this ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption by the City Council.


**SO ORDAINED**, this 4 day of September, 2012

**CITY OF "CENTERVILLE", GEORGIA**

By:   
MAYOR JOHN R. HARLEY

COUNCILMAN CAMERON ANDREWS

  
COUNCILMAN RANDALL WRIGHT

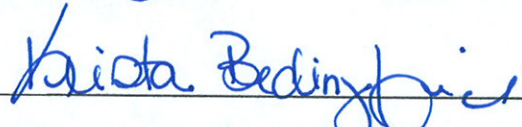
  
COUNCILMAN EDWARD R. TUCKER

ATTEST:

  
Krista Bedingfield, City Clerk

  
COUNCILMAN JONATHAN D. NICHOLS

ATTEST:

  
KRISTA BEDINGFIELD, CITY CLERK