

ORDINANCE NO. 597

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE 3 OF CHAPTER VII OF THE CITY OF WATFORD CITY ORDINANCES RELATING TO PIT BULL

7-301 Purpose

In order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the residents and citizens of the City of Watford City, the City Council of the City of Watford City does hereby enact the following provisions:

7-302 Pit Bull Dogs - Keeping Prohibited

It shall be unlawful to keep, harbor, own or in any way possess within the corporate limits of the City of Watford City, North Dakota, any pit bull dog. "Pit bull dog" is defined to mean:

- a. The bull terrier breed of dog;
- b. Staffordshire bull terrier breed of dog;
- c. The American pit bull terrier breed of dog;
- d. The American Staffordshire bull terrier breed of dog;
- e. Dogs of mixed breed or of other breeds than above listed which breed or mixed breed is known as pit bulls, pit bull dogs, or pit bull terriers;
- f. Any dog which has the appearance and characteristics of being predominantly of the breeds of bull terrier, Staffordshire bull terrier, American pit bull terrier, American Staffordshire terrier, any other breed commonly known as pit bulls, pit bull dogs or pit bull terriers, or a combination of any of these breeds.

7-303 Violations and Penalties

Any person violating or permitting the violation of any provision of this ordinance shall upon conviction in Municipal Court be fined a sum not more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00). In addition, the Court shall order the registration of the subject pit bull revoked and the dog removed from the City. Should the defendant refuse to remove the dog from the City, the Municipal Court Judge shall find the defendant owner in contempt and order the immediate confiscation and impoundment of the animal. Each day that a violation of this ordinance continues shall be deemed a separate offense. In addition to the foregoing penalties, any person who violates this ordinance shall pay all expenses, including shelter, food, handling, veterinary care and testimony necessitated by the enforcement of this ordinance.

7-304 Severability

If any section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

Beard moved the adoption of the foregoing Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Bulzomi. On roll call vote of the Council members, the following Council members voted "AYE": Renville, Sanford, Devlin, Bulzomi, and Beard and the following Council members voted "NAY": None. Absent and not voting: Liebel.

WHEREUPON, the motion was passed and the Ordinance declared adopted this 5th day of December, 2022.



Mayor Philip K. Riely
City of Watford City

ATTEST:



Peni Peterson, City Auditor

First Reading: 11/7/2022
Second Reading: 12/5/2022
Published: 12/21/2022