

ORDINANCE NO. 2276

**AN ORDINANCE REVISING ANIMAL CONTROL AND LICENSING
CAT CONTROL AND THEREBY AMENDING
REVISED CITY CODE – 1982 SECTION 6-400**

The City of Coon Rapids hereby ordains:

Section 1. Revised City Code – 1982 Section 6-400 is hereby amended as follows:

(deletions in brackets, additions double underlined)

6-401 ~~[Registration. All cats six months or older, kept, harbored, or maintained in the City of Coon Rapids shall be registered. Applicants for registration shall be made to the City Clerk upon forms provided by the Clerk. Among other information the application shall include the name and a description of the cat, the name and address of the owner, and the date of compliance with the terms and provisions of City Code Section 6-403.]~~

Definitions. As used in this Chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates:

- (1) “Animal Control Authority” means the Police Department and any other person appointed by the City Manager to perform the duties of animal control.
- (2) “Designated Animal Shelter” means an entity contracted by the City to house, maintain, and dispose of animals from the City.
- (3) “Cat” means any male or female of any breed of domesticated cat.
- (4) “Owner” means any person or persons, firm, association, organization or corporation owning, keeping, possessing, having an interest in, having care custody or control of or harboring a cat. Any person keeping or harboring a cat for five consecutive days is an owner thereof, for the purposes of this Chapter.
- (5) “Running at large” means any cat that is off the premises of the owner and not under the custody of the owner or other person either by leash, cord, or chain of not more than six feet or otherwise restrained or confined.

6-402 Tags. The owner of each cat kept, harbored, or maintained in the City of Coon Rapids shall affix to a collar to be worn by the cat an identification tag which shall contain the name and address or phone number of the owner of the cat.

6-403 Rabies Vaccination. ~~[Every owner or keeper of a cat shall cause the same to be vaccinated by a licensed veterinary surgeon with anti rabies vaccine at least once in every 12-month period and prior to the time such animal shall reach the age of six months.]~~Any cat residing in the City shall be vaccinated for rabies unless it meets the requirements of 6-403(2).

(1) Any cat found not to be currently vaccinated against rabies shall be subject to immediate impoundment, and its owner or any person who claims the animal shall pay to the designated animal shelter impound boarding fees as determined by contract between the City and the designated animal shelter, for each day the animal has been confined and the actual cost of rabies vaccination administered to the animal by or at the direction of the City’s agent. In addition, the owner is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(2) No cat need be vaccinated when a licensed veterinarian has examined the animal and certified that, at such time, vaccination would endanger its health because of its age, infirmity, debility, illness, or other medical consideration; and such exception certificate is presented to the Animal Control Officer within five days of such examination. The animal shall be vaccinated against rabies as soon as its health and age permit. Unvaccinated animals must be confined to the owner's property or a veterinary facility.

6-404 Running at Large. ~~[It shall be unlawful for the owner, keeper, or harbinger of any cat to permit the same to run at large in the City of Coon Rapids. Except when in a motor vehicle, all cats when off the premises of the owner or keeper must be on a leash of not more than six feet in length and in custody of and under the control of a person of sufficient age to adequately control the cat at all times. The Animal Control Officer, appointed pursuant to City Code Section 6-109 shall pick up and hold, at a designated pound, any cat running at large within the City in violation of the terms of this Chapter.]~~ [Revised 12/17/96, Ordinance 1589]

(1) It is unlawful for any person who owns or has custody of a cat to allow such animal to run at large.

(2) It is lawful to have a cat confined in a motor vehicle without a leash, but it must be on a leash if taken out of the vehicle.

(3) Penalties.

(a) The owner of a cat running at large is guilty of a petty misdemeanor.

(b) The owner of a cat running at large after one or more convictions of similar offense(s) within the preceding 12 calendar months is guilty of a misdemeanor.

6-405 Impoundment. ~~[Any cats picked up by the Animal Control Officer shall be immediately transported to the designated pound. If the owner is known, he or she shall be immediately notified by telephone or personal contact and by written notice to its last known address. If the owner is unknown, written notice containing a description of the animal shall be posted at the pound and the City Hall. The notice shall advise the owner that he or she has five regular business days to claim the animal. "Regular business day" means any day during which the pound is open to the public not less than four consecutive hours between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.]~~ All cats seized by the Animal Control Authority will be transported to the designated animal shelter as soon as practical. The owner, if known, will be notified by telephone or personal contact or by written notice to the owner's last known address as soon as practical. All animals seized by the City will be held for redemption by the owner in accordance with Minnesota statutes.

6-406 Reclaiming. ~~[An owner may reclaim an impounded cat by first registering the cat in accordance with the terms of this Chapter and paying to the pound master the boarding fees for each day the animal is confined.]~~ An owner may reclaim an impounded cat by meeting the applicable requirements of this Chapter and by paying to the designated animal shelter impound boarding fees as determined by contract between the City and the designated animal shelter, for each day the animal has been confined.

6-407 Unclaimed Animals. Any animal not claimed within the allotted time shall be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of ~~[Minnesota Statutes Section 35.71, Subdivision 3, as amended.]~~ the designated animal shelter.

6-408 Report of Cat Bites. Any person knowing of a human being bit by a cat shall immediately notify the Animal Control Officer ~~[or the Police Department and said cat shall then be confined and kept under observation for a period of 14 days before being disposed of, if necessary.]~~ Said cat will then be impounded and kept under observation for a period of 10 days before being disposed of, if necessary, unless owner provides proof of current rabies vaccination. If proof is provided at the time the cat is to be impounded or within 24 hours after the cat has been impounded, the cat can be released to the owner to be quarantined at the owner's residence. Failure to notify the Animal Control Authority of a human being bit by a cat constitutes a petty misdemeanor.

6-409 Destroying a Cat. It shall be unlawful for any person other than the Animal Control Officer ~~[or a peace officer]~~ to kill or destroy any cat found running at large in the City or that has been known to bite a person within a period of 14 days or is being held pursuant to Section 6-408. This section will not apply if the cat is destroyed to prevent the infliction of substantial bodily harm on a human being.

6-410 Community Service Officer May Issue Citations. Community service officers may issue citations for violations of this chapter, ~~[provided, that no community service officer may require a person served to sign a promise to appear with respect to any such citation.]~~

6-411 Nuisances. The keeping, maintaining, and harboring of a cat that has bitten a person or persons other than the owner thereof and members of the owners household on three or more occasions within a period of 12 consecutive months, that has been permitted to run loose or has caused damage to or loss of private property belonging to a person other than the owner thereof or any member of the owner's household on three or more occasions is declared to be a public nuisance. An owner may not maintain any cat in such a manner as to create a nuisance by way of noise, odor, or otherwise.

6-412 Abatement. A cat found to be a nuisance under Section 6-411 ~~[Such nuisance]~~ shall be abated by the owner ~~[or keeper]~~ of such animal by the disposition of the animal within 14 days after receipt of notice to the owner ~~[or keeper]~~ thereof. "Disposition" shall mean the destruction of the animal or its permanent removal from the City. Said notice shall be sent by the Chief of Police or his designee by registered mail. If the owner ~~[or keeper]~~ of the animal fails to comply within the above-specified period, the animal control officer is authorized and directed to capture and immediately dispose of such animal. The owner ~~[or keeper]~~ of the cat shall immediately make the animal available to the animal control officer.

6-413 Appeals. Any owner who feels aggrieved by the order of the Chief of Police may request a hearing before the City Council by filing an appeal, in writing, with the City Manager within 14 days after receipt of the notice. ~~[The appeal shall be filed in such form as the City shall provide.]~~ On the filing of such appeal, no further action shall be taken until the matter has been heard. Upon receipt of the request, the City Manager shall place the matter before the Council at its next regular meeting. The owner may appear, with counsel if the owner chooses, and present evidence in opposition to the order. Following such hearing the Council shall make a determination of facts and shall, based on such determination, affirm, repeal, or modify the Chief's order. The Council shall also establish a date for compliance with the order as affirmed or modified, which shall be not less than five days thereafter. Upon expiration of the time limit, the animal control officer shall abate the nuisance. [Revised 2/05/91, Ordinance 1365.]

6-414 Penalties. Unless otherwise expressly provided, any violation of this Chapter constitutes a misdemeanor.

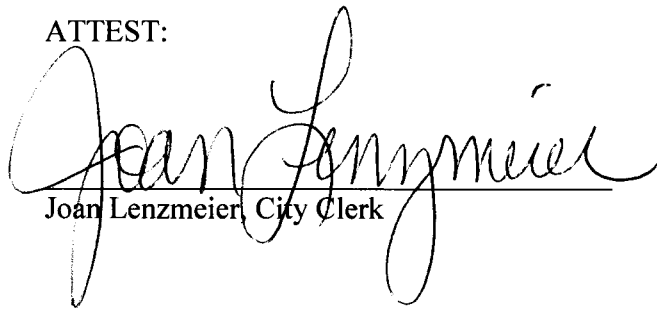
Introduced this 15th day of November, 2022.

Adopted this 6th day of December, 2022.



Jerry Koch, Mayor

ATTEST:



Joan Lenzmeier, City Clerk

