

# Ordinance of the City of Jersey City, N.J.

File No. Ord. 23-110  
Agenda No. 3.6 (1st Reading)  
Agenda No. 4.9 (2nd Reading and Final Passage)



**AN ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY CITY  
ESTABLISHING CHAPTER 91 AN ANIMAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

**COUNCIL AS A WHOLE offered and moved adoption of the following ordinance:**

**WHEREAS**, animals are an important part of life in Jersey City. Dogs, cats, and other companion animals enrich residents’ lives, and wildlife is a valued and protected part of our local environment. Animal care and control are necessary services to support residents, prevent injury and disease, and provide humane treatment for animals who cannot advocate for themselves; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of Jersey City have long called for and supported humane treatment, humane education, and enforcement of animal control laws to support public health and safety. Community support, advocacy, and participation in animal-related policy development are vital contributions to the quality of life in Jersey City.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Jersey City therefore adopts a new chapter of the city municipal code establishing the an Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC).

**NOW THEREFORE, THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY CITY DOES  
ORDAIN:**

**Chapter 91**

**Animal Welfare Committee**

**A. Purpose and Powers of the Committee**

The Animal Welfare Advisory Committee’s purpose is to advise the Mayor on animal care issues generally, and animal control and sheltering issues specifically. The AWAC is to:


- (1) Convene when called by the Committee’s Chair to consider animal care, animal control, and animal sheltering issues.
- (2) Make recommendations to the Mayor on animal issues affecting Jersey City.
- (3) Recommend policy and guidelines as they pertain to animal welfare or animal care issues; provided, however, that the Committee’s recommendation shall be limited to planning and programmatic review and shall not affect the decisions concerning operation, budget or personnel.


**B. Membership**

The Animal Welfare Advisory Committee shall consist of up to eleven (11) members appointed by the Mayor:

- (1) Two Municipal Council representatives or their designees;

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Business Administrator

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporation Counsel

**An Ordinance of the Municipal Council of the City of Jersey City Establishing Chapter 91 an Animal Welfare Advisory Committee.**

- (2) One member with experience in animal rescue;
- (3) One member with experience in care of community cats including Trap, Neuter & Return;
- (4) One member with experience working in a licensed animal shelter, kennel, or veterinary office, which may include a facility contracted for these services by the City;
- (5) One member who is a New Jersey certified Animal Control Officer in good standing;
- (6) The Director of the City of Jersey City Department which administers or performs animal control services or their designee;
- (7) The Health Officer or their designee;
- (8) The Chief Municipal Prosecutor or their designee; and
- (9) Members of the public with relevant interest or experience.

The Chair of the Committee shall be appointed by the Mayor. The Mayor, at their discretion, may assign a staff member to serve as Committee Secretary. Those members who serve ex-officio (the Department Director, Health Officer and Chief Municipal Prosecutor) may designate a representative on a continuing or ad-hoc basis by notice to the Committee Chair.

C. Committee Meetings

- 1.Meetings may be held in-person, by online video conference, or by telephone as scheduled by the Committee Chair.
- 2.Each member has the responsibility to discuss, deliberate, and decide by agreement of a majority of currently appointed members on any recommendation of the Committee.
- 3.The Chair may invite presentations and participation from subject matter experts or others with relevant experience.

D. Terms and Removal

- 1.Other than the three (3) committee members serving ex officio, the committee members shall serve two (2) year terms, and may be reappointed for not more than two (2) additional terms, for not more than six (6) consecutive years of service.
- 2.All members serve at the pleasure of the Mayor and can be removed at any time by the Mayor.
3. Vacancies may be filled by the Mayor for the remainder of the unexpired term.

E. Conflicts

- 1.It is expected that Committee members have interests which could be or give the appearance of a conflict of interest. Committee members are required to identify any organizational affiliations and to avoid any action which could reasonably be interpreted as a use of their Committee membership to further their personal interest or that of any organization(s) or individual(s) with which they are affiliated.
- 2.A Committee member must withdraw from participation, discussion, or voting on any matter for which any family member, domestic partner, business associate or any other relationship of economic dependence has any financial interest or personal gain.

F. Cooperation with City Departments and Agencies

- 1.All City departments and agencies, now existing or hereafter established, shall reasonably cooperate with and provide assistance to the committee as permitted by law.

G. Suspension and Cessation of the Committee

- 1.The Mayor has full discretionary authority over the duration of this Committee and hence the setting of its expiration date.

**NOTE:** All new material is underlined words ~~struck through~~ are omitted. For purposes of advertising only, new matter is **boldface** and repealed by *italics*.

An Ordinance of the Municipal Council of the City of Jersey City Establishing Chapter 91 an Animal Welfare Advisory Committee.

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE ON INTRODUCTION – Oct 25 2023						
RIDLEY	ABSENT	SALEH	AYE	DEGISE	AYE	8-0
PRINZ-AREY	AYE	SOLOMON	AYE	RIVERA	AYE	
BOGGIANO	AYE	GILMORE	AYE	WATTERMAN, PRES	AYE	

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE TO CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING – Nov 8 2023						
RIDLEY	ABSENT	SALEH	AYE	DEGISE	AYE	8-0
PRINZ-AREY	AYE	SOLOMON	AYE	RIVERA	AYE	
BOGGIANO	AYE	GILMORE	AYE	WATTERMAN, PRES.	AYE	

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTE ON AMENDMENTS, IF ANY –						
RIDLEY		SALEH		DEGISE		
PRINZ-AREY		SOLOMON		RIVERA		
BOGGIANO		GILMORE		WATTERMAN, PRES.		

RECORD OF FINAL COUNCIL VOTE – Nov 8 2023						
RIDLEY	ABSENT	SALEH	AYE	DEGISE	AYE	8-0
PRINZ-AREY	AYE	SOLOMON	AYE	RIVERA	AYE	
BOGGIANO	AYE	GILMORE	AYE	WATTERMAN, PRES.	AYE	


59 464 578 476" data-label="Text">

Adopted on first reading of the Council of Jersey City, N.J. on **Oct 25 2023**


59 477 510 489" data-label="Text">

Adopted on second and final reading after hearing on **Nov 8 2023**


This is to certify that the foregoing Ordinance was adopted  
by the Municipal Council at its meeting on Nov 8 2023



City Clerk



Joyce E. Watterman, President of Council  
Approved: Nov 8 2023



Steven M. Fulop, Mayor  
Date to Mayor: Nov 9 2023  
Approved: Nov 9 2023

An Ordinance of the Municipal Council of the City of Jersey City Establishing Chapter 91 an Animal Welfare Advisory Committee.

FACT SHEET -

This summary sheet is to be attached to the front of any ordinance that is submitted for Council consideration. Incomplete or vague fact sheets will be returned with the ordinance.

Project Manager

Stacey Flanagan, Department Head - HHS	2015476800	SFlanagan@jcnj.org
Department	Department of Health and Human Services	
Division	Office of the Director of HHS	

Note: Project Manager must be available by phone during agenda meeting (Wednesday prior to council meeting @ 1:00 p.m.)

Meeting	Regular Meeting of Municipal Council - Nov 08 2023
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Purpose

Animal Welfare Advisory Committee is being established to create reasonable and pragmatic approaches focused on the mission and accomplishing the goal of quality and workable animal solutions.
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Cost (Identify all sources and amounts)

Contract term (include all)

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ATTACHMENTS:

<a href="#">10.26.23 Animal Welfare Committee Ord</a>
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Approved by  
John McKinney, Attorney  
John Metro, Business Administrator

Status:  
Approved - Oct 20 2023  
Approved - Oct 20 2023

# **AN ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY CITY ESTABLISHING CHAPTER 91 AN ANIMAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF JERSEY CITY**

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**WHEREAS**, the residents of Jersey City have long called for and supported humane treatment, humane education, and enforcement of animal control laws to support public health and safety. Community support, advocacy, and participation in animal-related policy development are vital contributions to the quality of life in Jersey City.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Jersey City therefore establishes an Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC).

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## **A. Purpose and Powers of the Committee**

The Animal Welfare Advisory Committee's purpose is to advise the Mayor on animal care issues generally, and animal control and sheltering issues specifically. The AWAC is to:

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## **B. Membership**

The Animal Welfare Advisory Committee shall consist of up to ~~eleven (11)~~ **nine (9)** members appointed by the Mayor:

- (1) **Two Municipal Council representatives or their designees;**
- (2) **One member with experience in animal rescue;**
- (3) **One member with experience in care of community cats including Trap, Neuter & Return;**

- (4) One member with experience working in a licensed animal shelter, kennel, or veterinary office, which may include a facility contracted for these services by the City;
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