
City Council Regular Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Neighborhood Services

FROM: Lisa Duello, Neighborhood Services Director

MEETING: August 1, 2022

SUBJECT:

Consider approval of an ordinance amending Section 6-1 (Definitions) and 6-9 (Care and Humane Treatment of Animals) of Chapter 6, (Animal Care and Control) of the Burleson Code of Ordinances by adding definitions for Adequate shelter, Harness, Cruelly treated, Adverse weather conditions, and Properly fitted, and by modifying the manner and location a dog or other animal may be tied or tethered; making this ordinance cumulative of prior ordinances; providing a severability clause; providing for the violation of this ordinance; providing a penalty clause; and providing for an effective date. (Final Reading) (Staff Contact: Lisa Duello, Neighborhood Services Director)

SUMMARY:

City Council approved this item by a unanimous vote at the July 18, 2022 regular Council meeting.

Texas legislature recently passed Senate Bill 5 (attached) unattended Dogs res in the 87th legislative session, third special session – the Safe Outdoor Dogs Act to protect unattended dogs restrained outdoors, effective January 18, 2022.

How Senate Bill 5 protects dogs and improves public safety:

- Defines adequate shelter to protect dogs from exposure to extreme temperature, standing water and ensures the dog can stand, turn around and lie down.
- Requires access to drinkable water
- Prohibits the use of chain restraints which cause pain and injuries.
- Strikes the 24- hour waiting period so animal services and law enforcement can take immediate action for dogs in distress.

Staff is proposing to update the City of Burleson Code of Ordinance, Chapter 6, Animal Care and Control, Section 6-9 -Care and Humane Treatment of Animals, to be concurrent with state Law. The changes involve adding/modifying definitions for the following terms:

- Adequate Shelter
- Adverse weather conditions
- Harness
- Cruelly treated
- Properly fitted

Additional changes include removing all references to the use of chains and renumbering relevant sections to concur with State Law.

PRIOR ACTION/INPUT (Council, Boards, Citizens):

Animal Shelter Advisory Committee met on March 1, 2022 and supports the proposed changes.

OPTIONS:

- 1) Approve ordinance as presented
- 2) Approve the ordinance with modifications; or
- 3) Deny the ordinance.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the ordinance as presented.

Fiscal IMPACT:

N/A

STAFF CONTACT:

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