

ORDINANCE NO. 05-24

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE II OF CHAPTER 5 OF THE
CAMDEN CODE REGARDING DOGS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City considers animal control to be important; and

WHEREAS, the City has reviewed its animal control ordinance for possible areas of improvement and clarification; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to amend the animal control rules pertaining to dogs contained in Article II of Chapter 5 of the Camden Code of Ordinances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMDEN, ARKANSAS, THAT:

SECTION 1: Section 5-16 of the Camden Code of Ordinances (Definitions) is amended by deleting the current definition of “Owner” and replacing it with the following:

Owner. Any person having a right of property in or custody of a dog or who keeps or harbors a dog or intentionally entices a dog to remain on or about any premises occupied by that person over which that person has substantial control. “Owner” shall include a parent, guardian, or other adult residing at the premises where a dog is located.

SECTION 2: Section 5-112 of the Camden Code of Ordinances (Impoundment fees) is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

Any dog impounded hereunder may be redeemed, as provided above, upon payment by the owner to the City of Camden the sum of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for each dog, and the additional sum of five dollars (\$5.00) per day for each day such dog has been maintained by the city animal shelter. Impoundment fees set forth herein shall be collected for the city and maintained in the fund for the maintenance of the city animal shelter. In addition, if the animals have not been licensed and/or vaccinated, the dog shall be licensed and/or vaccinated prior to being released by the animal control officer, either to the owner thereof or otherwise. The burden of proof as to the vaccination and licensing shall be upon the party attempting to redeem the dog from the animal control officer under this article.

Any person redeeming unvaccinated and unlicensed dogs, shall after payment of the fee assessed herein and prior to taking possession of the dog, cause such dog to be vaccinated and licensed in accordance with the regulation of the city, and the cost for expense of such vaccination or license fee shall be paid by the party redeeming such dog and shall be in addition to the fees herein set.

The animal control officer shall keep complete and accurate records of all dogs impounded; and should an owner's dog be impounded a second time, then in such event, the animal control officer prior to releasing such dog, shall require a fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) to be paid by such owner, plus five dollars (\$5.00) per day. Upon each subsequent impoundment of the

owner's dog, the animal control officer shall not release such dog until the owner shall have paid a fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) plus five dollars (\$5.00) per day. Such subsequent impoundments shall required compliance with the above licensing and vaccination fees. The fees described herein shall be in addition to whatever penalties might be assessed for misdemeanor violations described in other sections of this article.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2023.

Mayor

City Clerk