

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND PROVISIONS RELATED TO (IN GENERAL) ARTICLE I OF CHAPTER 8 (ANIMALS) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LAWRENCEVILLE, GEORGIA

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Lawrenceville, Georgia recognizes that animal regulation is in the best interest of individuals and the community for the enjoyment of life and property and in the conduct of business; and

WHEREAS, the City Council also recognizes that uncontrolled animals negatively impacts tourism, economic development, and residents making it difficult for visitors, workers and residents to enjoy places and activities; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further recognizes that uncontrolled animals could be a hazard to the public health, welfare, safety, and quality of life of those living, working, and visiting the City of Lawrenceville; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is authorized to adopt ordinances for the purpose of protecting and preserving the public health, safety, and welfare of the City and its residents; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that it is in the best interest of the City to revise the City Animal Ordinance to align with the Gwinnett County Ordinance so that it can be enforced by Gwinnett County Animal Control within the City in accordance with the Service Delivery Strategy between Gwinnett County and the cities therein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the City Council hereby repeals Article I (In General) of Chapter 8 (Animals) of the Code of the City of Lawrenceville, Georgia and replaces it with a new Article I of Chapter 8 of the Code of the City of Lawrenceville, Georgia, entitled "Animals in General" as follows:

Sec. 8-1. - Adoption of Gwinnett County Animal Ordinance.

The City Council adopts and incorporates by reference the Ordinance within the Gwinnett County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10 - Animals as may be amended from time to time. For the purpose of prescribing regulations governing animals, including dangerous dogs, the same is adopted and incorporated as amended herein and otherwise as fully as if set out at length herein, and from the date on which this chapter shall take effect, the provisions thereof shall be controlling within the corporate limits of the City. The Gwinnett County animal welfare division is hereby authorized to enforce the Ordinance. The incorporated area of the City shall be subject to the fees charged by the county animal welfare division and all such fees shall be retained by the county to defray the cost of the animal welfare division.

Sec. 8-2. - Modifications of terms.

The aforementioned County Code provisions incorporated by referenced in section 8-1 shall be considered amended in any manner necessary to change the wording to express the intent of adoption and incorporation. "City of Lawrenceville, Georgia" shall replace references to "Gwinnett County." "Mayor and Council of the City of Lawrenceville, Georgia" shall replace "Board of Commissioners" where appropriate. Specifically the following changes are made:

Sec. 10-1. Definitions – *Police Officer* means any law enforcement officer empowered to make arrests or cause to be issued summonses in the City of Lawrenceville.

Sec. 10-2. Penalties for violation of chapter.

City shall replace county herein.

Sec. 10-4. Summons.

(b) City shall replace county herein.

Sec. 10-5. Liability of the county, animal welfare division, officers and employees.

City shall replace county herein.

Sec. 10-8. Public nuisance animal.

(a) (6) city shall replace county herein.

Sec. 10-140. Rabies vaccination certificates.

Shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

The owner, possessor or harbinger of each dog or cat residing in the city must obtain and possess a current rabies vaccination certificate from a licensed veterinarian showing that the animal has been vaccinated against rabies. Upon vaccination, all veterinarians shall be responsible for issuing a metal tag with a vaccination and identification number. Tags must be renewed within 30 days of the expiration date of the vaccination.

Sec. 8-3. – Animals in Parks.

The restrictions on animals in parks within the city, as outlined in City Ordinances, [Chapter 28 – Parks and Recreation, Article II. – Sec. 28-43. - Animals](#) shall not be changed and shall continue to be in force and effect as adopted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall be effective on May 24, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances, regulations or parts of the same in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby rescinded to the extent of said conflict.

IT IS SO ORDAINED, this 23rd day of May, 2022.

David R. Still, Mayor

Attest:

Karen Pierce, City Clerk