

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COUNCIL

ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE CALENDAR NO: 7676

ORDINANCE COUNCIL SERIES NO: 24-

COUNCIL SPONSOR: MS. TANNER

PROVIDED BY: COUNCIL OFFICE

INTRODUCED BY: _____

SECONDED BY: _____

ON THE 5TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER , 2024

ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES, PART I, CHAPTER 10, ARTICLE IV - ANIMAL CONTROL AND WELFARE, SECTION 10-642 – “DEFINITIONS.”, TO UPDATE THE DEFINITION OF PROPER SHELTER IN REGARDS TO CATTLE; SECTION 10-643 - “ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.”, TO ADDRESS UNFOUNDED ANIMAL WELFARE COMPLAINTS; SECTION 10-647 – “ANIMALS AT LARGE; LEASH LAW.”, TO ADD ENFORCEMENT FOR REPEAT OFFENDERS; AND SECTION 10-667 – “ANIMAL ESTABLISHMENT PERMITS”, TO PROVIDE UPDATES REGARDING MICROCHIPPING AND ANNUAL PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS FOR ANIMAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

WHEREAS, in order to provide for the safety and welfare of animals, it is necessary to amend several sections of the St. Tammany Parish Code of Ordinances Chapter 10, Article IV – Animal Control and Welfare.

THE PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY HEREBY ORDAINS that “Chapter 10, Article IV – Animal Control and Welfare, Section 10-642. Definitions.” be amended as follows:

Proper shelter means providing each animal with adequate shelter from the elements as required to prevent unnecessary or unjustifiable suffering by the animal. In the case of a ~~pet or companion~~ domesticated animal that is kept outdoors, a shelter must have a minimum of three sides, a waterproof roof and a dry floor. Such shelter shall provide proper protection from the sun, rain, cold and the wind. Housing for animals shall be structurally sound and maintained in good repair. Housing for the animal shall allow, as a minimum, enough room for the animal to stand, sit and to turn around comfortably. Proper housing shall always remain easily accessible to the animal at all times. Cattle are exempt from being required to have proper shelter as described; however, other minimum care standards must be met per LA R.S. 14:102.

THE PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY FURTHER ORDAINS that “Chapter 10, Article IV – Animal Control and Welfare, Section 10-643 – Enforcement authority.” be amended as follows:

(d) Unfounded complaints. If an anonymous complaint about animal welfare is reported, and the animal control officer does not find a violation, (d) Unfounded complaints. If an anonymous complaint about animal welfare is reported, and the animal control officer does not find a violation, it will be in the purview of the Director of Animal Services to decide when animal control will investigate it again.

THE PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY FURTHER ORDAINS that “Chapter 10, Article IV – Animal Control and Welfare, Section 10-647 – Animals at large; leash law.” be amended as follows:

(3) *Penalties and enforcement for violating this section.*

- a. *Misdemeanor enforcement.* Whoever violates any provision of this section, or fails or neglects to perform any duty imposed by it, shall be fined not less than \$25.00 nor more than \$500.00, or imprisoned

for not more than 30 days, or both. Additionally, upon conviction, such person shall be required to pay all court costs and the court may, in its discretion, order the payment of any reasonable costs incurred in the enforcement thereof, including the costs of boarding the animal and necessary medical care.

- b. *Administrative enforcement.* In lieu of, or in addition to, enforcement under the misdemeanor provisions of subsection (3)a. of this section, whoever violates any provision of this section, or fails or neglects to perform any duty imposed by it, may be served with notice to appear before the parish administrative hearing officer as set forth in section 2-542. The fine shall be not less than \$25.00 nor more than \$500.00 and the payment of any reasonable costs incurred in the enforcement thereof, including the costs of boarding the animal and necessary medical care.

- c. *Enforcement for repeat offenders.* In addition to the misdemeanor enforcement and administrative enforcement in subsections 3(a) and 3(b), whoever is considered to be a repeat offender may be subject to having the animal confiscated and impounded.

THE PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY FURTHER ORDAINS that Chapter 10, Article IV – Animal Control and Welfare, Section 10-667(a) be amended as follows:

- (6) The annual permit fee shall be \$200.00. A report of the number of animals bred the prior year is also required along with the annual permit fee.

THE PARISH OF ST. TAMMANY FURTHER ORDAINS that Chapter 10, Article IV – Animal Control and Welfare, Section 10-667(b) be amended as follows:

- (13) Animal establishments shall be required to microchip all animals who are 6 months of age or older.

REPEAL: All ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SEVERABILITY: If any provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions herein which can be given effect without the invalid provision and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This Ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after adoption.

MOVED FOR ADOPTION BY: _____ SECONDED BY: _____

WHEREUPON THIS ORDINANCE WAS SUBMITTED TO A VOTE AND RESULTED IN THE FOLLOWING:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ORDINANCE CALENDAR NUMBER: _____

ORDINANCE COUNCIL SERIES NO: _____

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THIS ORDINANCE WAS DECLARED DULY ADOPTED AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL ON THE 3RD DAY OF OCTOBER, 2024; AND BECOMES ORDINANCE COUNCIL SERIES NO 24-_____.

AUTHUR A. LAUGHLIN, COUNCIL CHAIR

ATTEST:

KATRINA L. BUCKLEY, COUNCIL CLERK

MICHAEL B. COOPER, PARISH PRESIDENT

Published Introduction: AUGUST 28, 2024

Published Adoption: _____, 2024

Delivered to Parish President: _____, 2024 at _____

Returned to Council Clerk: _____, 2024 at _____