
TOWN OF LATAH SPOKANE COUNTY, WASHINGTON RESOLUTION 16-3

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER FOR THE TOWN OF LATAH

THERE IS HEREBY created a position of Animal Control Officer for the Town of Latah.

Section 1- Definitions

“Animal Control Officer” means:

1. Any individual employed, contracted with, or appointed by the Town for the purpose of aiding in the enforcement of this chapter or any other law or ordinance relating to the license of animals ,control of animals, or seizure and impoundment of animals,
2. Any state or local law enforcement officer; or
3. Any other official whose duties in whole or in part include assignments that involve the seizure and impoundment of any animal.

“Animal Control Authority” means a person or entity authorized by Statute or contracts to enforce the animal control laws of the Town of Latah.

Section 2- Duties and Responsibilities

**ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER –MUST UPHOLD THE DOG ORDINANCE 134(k)
INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:**

The Animal Control Officer or his/her duly appointed agent shall be specially commissioned by the Town of Latah as a specially commissioned deputy for the purpose of issuing citations to persons found in violation of Town and State ordinances pertaining to animals. These violations may be issued in the instances where a violation occurs in Animal Control Officer’s presence or in reasonable belief that the owner/caretaker of the animal is in violation even though the violation does not occur in the presence of the officer. The Animal Control Officer or his/her duly appointed agent shall also be specially commissioned by the County Sheriff to enforce the provisions of Chapter 16.08 and 16.52, Revised Code of Washington; and shall have the authority to issue citations for violations of Chapter 16.08 and 16.52, Revised Code of Washington, constituting a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor. It shall be unlawful for any person to interfere with, molest,

hinder or obstruct an Animal Control Officer or any Town employee or official in the discharge of his duties under this chapter.

No person may allow an animal to unreasonably disturb persons by habitually barking, howling, yelping, whining or making other oral noises.

A. A violation of this section is established if the person disturbed is either an animal control officer or an individual residing within three hundred feet (exclusive of public right-of-way) of the place where the animal is harbored.

B. A violation of this section is a class 1 civil infraction.

The Animal Control Officer must enforce the Ordinance to prevent Dog's running at large. A dog running at large whose owner is alleged to have violated this section as a habitual violator may be impounded and held at the owner's expense, not to be released except upon court order with the alleged habitual violator having the burden of obtaining any such court order. If within 30 days of the date of impoundment the alleged habitual violator fails to obtain a court injunction, the animal control officer shall have the authority to destroy the impounded dog. If a court determines the dog owner to be an habitual violator, the court shall issue an order directing the animal control officer to seize and destroy all dogs in the dog owner's possession which dogs are identified as having been running at large previously within one month of the current infraction and ordering payment to the Town of any costs incurred by the Town as a result of the impound and euthanization of any animals.

The Animal Control Officer may apprehend any animal found doing any of the acts defined as a public nuisance and/or being subjected to cruel treatment. After such animals are apprehended, the animal control authority shall ascertain whether they are licensed, or otherwise identifiable. If reasonably possible, the animal control authority shall return the animal to the owner together with a notice of violation of this chapter or impound the animal. If it is not reasonably possible to immediately return a currently licensed animal to its owner the animal control authority shall notify the owner within a reasonable time by regular mail or telephone that the animal has been impounded and may be redeemed.

A. Any currently licensed animal impounded pursuant to this chapter shall be held for the owner per contract specifications set by contract with animal control, and fees set per animal control contract.

B. As to any instance where the Town incurs fees or expenses with the animal control officer, the owner of the animal(s) which generated such fees or expenses shall be responsible for paying those fees or expenses. The owner shall pay those fees and expenses within ten (10) days of receipt of the Town's bill provided, however, no animal may be released unless those fees or expenses have been paid.

Section 3-Additional Duties

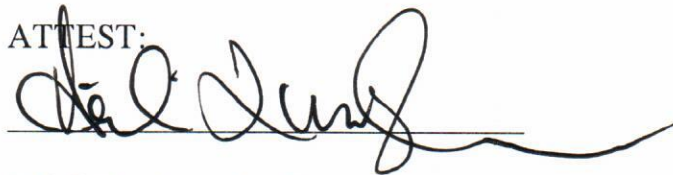
The Animal Control Officer is under direct supervision of the Mayor and shall perform additional duties as requested by the Mayor.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the town council this 2nd day of August, 2016.

APPROVED:

Douglas Arnold – Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Heidi Turnbough', written over a horizontal line.

Heidi Turnbough - Clerk/Treasurer