

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. E(2)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: September 24, 2002

TITLE: A Request to Adopt Revisions to the Town's Animal Control Ordinance

DEPARTMENT: Police	PUBLIC HEARING: YES ____ NO <u>x</u>
ATTACHMENTS: A- Revised Animal Control Ordinance B- Amendment to Noise Generally 5-12(5) C- Breed Specific Memo D- Animal Waste Memo	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Amanda Stipe, Animal Control Officer, 918-7418

PURPOSE

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen have been requested to consider adopting an ordinance prohibiting the display of wild and exotic animals within Orange County. The town staff is recommending that the animal control ordinance be amended to include the requested changes. In addition, the town staff is requesting that the Board approve additional modifications to the current ordinance and that Chapter 5 of the Town Code (Noise Generally) be amended to include barking dogs.

INFORMATION

The Committee for Human and Animal Safety submitted a request for adoption of "An Ordinance Prohibiting the Display of Wild and Exotic Animals Within Orange County." This ordinance was reviewed by the Town staff and is included in the attached revised version of the Animal Control Ordinance.

The Town staff has reviewed the current Animal Control Ordinance, which was adopted in 1992. The Town staff is recommending modifications in an effort to clarify aspects of the ordinance and facilitate public safety. The following modifications are included:

- Correction of misspellings and incorrect citations;
- New definitions and additions to definitions;
- Changes in rabies control due to new state laws and regulations;
- Requiring cats to be identified;
- New nuisance determinations for animals and cats;
- Increases in civil penalties for running at large, failure to vaccinate, failure to license, and animal nuisances; and
- Allowing review of civil penalties by the Patrol Division Captain before appealing to the Animal Control Board of Appeals.

In addition, the Town staff reviewed Section 5-12 (Noise Generally) of the Town Code. The Town staff is recommending a modification to include barking dogs.

On April 23, 2002, Mayor Nelson requested that the Town staff review the current animal control ordinance to determine whether it addresses problems with pit bulls. The Town staff has prepared the attached memorandum (Attachment C) in response to this request.

On July 22, 2002, Ms. Pam Zoirnick expressed her interest in the Town establishing regulations requiring dog owners to be responsible for cleaning up after their dogs along Town streets. The Town staff has prepared the attached memorandum (Attachment D) in response to this request.

ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION

The administration requests that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen consider adopting the revised Animal Control Ordinance (Attachment A) and the ordinance amending Chapter 5 of the Town Code to include barking dogs (Attachment B).