

ORDINANCE NO. _____ OF 2024

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 14 OF THE SHREVEPORT CODE OF ORDINANCES, RELATIVE TO OWNER AND DEALER RESPONSIBILITIES AND ANIMAL CONTROL, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Shreveport, Louisiana in due, legal and regular session convened, that Chapter 14, Article I, of the Code of Ordinances be hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 14-20. – Breeders; permit required.

No private person shall breed a dog for the purpose of selling any portion of the litter for profit or donating any portion of the litter, without first obtaining a permit from Caddo Parish Animal Services. The applicant will provide CPAS with the dog’s breed, date of birth and a copy of registration papers, if any. Fees for permits are listed on the Caddo Parish website. Any additional licenses and permits required by local, state, and federal law, if any, must be obtained prior to the issuance of a breeder’s permit.

Sec. 14-23. – Owner responsibilities – Dogs and cats.

- (a) *Dog* means any member of the *Canis lupus familiaris* family.
- (b) *Cat* means any member of the *Felidae* (feline) family.
- (c) No person may own, keep, reside with, or harbor a dog or cat within the city that is not spayed or not neutered.
- (d) Subsection (c) does not apply to:
 - (1) Puppies 26 weeks or younger and kittens 26 weeks or younger.
 - (2) Any dog or cat which is registered with the American Kennel Club, United Kennel Club, American Dog Breeding Association, Continental Kennel Club, Cat Fanciers Association, American Cat Fanciers Association or other nationally or internationally recognized organization and participates in shows sponsored by these organizations. An animal owner who presents proof of registration and participation in

shows is exempt from the neutering and spaying requirements of this section.

- (3) Sporting dog breeds utilized for hunting activities that are up to date on all vaccinations with tracking collars.
 - (4) Animals with a chronic or debilitating disease or medical condition whose health will be seriously, permanently, and detrimentally affected if it is spayed or neutered as documented by a licensed veterinarian. This includes any developmental variation from the timeline expressed subsection (d)(1) of this section that would make sterilization of the animal inappropriate until maturity.
 - (5) Animal establishment owners as defined in [section 14-2](#) of this Code are exempted. Also exempted are those who obtain an intact permit (males)/breeding permit (females) for their pet which is microchipped and the permit is to be obtained annually to expire on December 31st of every year.
- (e) The primary penalty for violation for this section shall be a citation, not to exceed \$250.00 and the cost of microchipping the animal. Upon follow up after 30 days of the first citation, the owner shall have a documented appointment for spay/neuter or receive an additional citation, not to exceed \$500.00. Any further penalty imposed for any violation of this section of the Code shall follow the schedule as provided in section 1-14 of this Code.

Sec. 14-30. – Impoundment of dogs and cats; disposition, identification and classification.

(1) It shall be the duty of the director to seize and impound any at-large stray dog or cat not tagged with the current official Caddo Parish rabies vaccination registration tag or microchip. Any dog or cat so seized and impounded shall be held for a period of at least four working days during which time the owner may reclaim the dog or cat. The director may also seize and impound tagged dogs which are at large in violation of [section 14-36](#). Any tagged or microchipped dog which is impounded shall be held for a period of seven working days during which time the owner may reclaim the dog. To reclaim an impounded dog or cat, the owner must pay redemption and board fees as provided in [section 14-40](#), and provide satisfactory proof of ownership which may include:

- (a) Rabies registration certificate.

- (b) Photo ID of animal as provided by said animal's veterinarian.
- (c) Animal demonstrates recognition of owner.
- (d) Owner can provide photo of pet.
- (e) Detailed description of said animal from veterinarian records.

If the dog or cat is not legally vaccinated, the owner shall be required to pay an additional fee as provided in [section 14-40](#) to cover the cost of licensing and rabies vaccination registration fees.

(2) Whenever an animal has been impounded and the owner thereof is known or can be ascertained from the rabies registration tag, microchip or identifying collar or of any other means such as a tattoo or brand, Caddo Parish Animal Services, shall, within 24 hours, notify the owner, in writing, of the conditions upon which the animal may be reclaimed. After written notification has been given and the owner has not been reclaimed the animal within seven working days, the rights of the owner are relinquished and the animal becomes property of Caddo Parish Animal Services. Exceptions can be made at the discretion of the director. At the discretion of the director, animals that have not been reclaimed by their owner and become property of Caddo Parish may be processed for adoption, foster care, and rescue or humanely euthanized.

(3) The director may order the timely euthanasia for any animal lawfully taken into custody at the animal shelter which, in the opinion of the director or shelter veterinarian, is necessary by reason of physical condition of the animal or as is required for other humane reasons. The director, with the concurrence of the shelter veterinarian, may order the timely euthanasia for any animal lawfully taken into custody at the animal shelter which, in the opinion of the director, is appropriate by reason of the animal's temperament.

(4) Owners of unwanted animals may bring the animals to the animal shelter and release them to be disposed of at the discretion of the director or shelter veterinarian, subject to the conditions in subsection (10). Should an owner want to redeem an animal which has been released, all impoundment, board, rabies vaccination, and rabies vaccination registration fees as applicable, must be paid.

(5) It shall be the duty of the director to seize any domesticated animal, in addition to dogs and cats, found to be at large, and any non-domesticated (wild) animal that is a potential public health hazard, a nuisance, or is sick or injured.

(6) Domesticated animals other than dogs, cats, ferrets and livestock will be held for a period of at least four working days during which time they may, after payment of impoundment and board

fees, be claimed by their owners. If the owner does not claim any such animal, the animal may be disposed of at the discretion of the director.

(7) Non-domesticated animals shall be relocated or humanely euthanized at the discretion of the director.

(8) Any animal reclaimed by owner from Caddo Parish Animal Services has the option to have their animal spayed or neutered prior to it leaving the shelter, for a fee.

(9) At-large stray animals impounded for the second time will be required to be spayed or neutered for a fee, and microchipped, prior to being reclaimed by their owners.

(10) No owner surrendered or stray animals from outside the CPAS jurisdiction shall be accepted; such animals shall be referred to their respective jurisdiction's agency. An animal from outside the CPAS jurisdiction may be accepted for humane reasons (injured/suffering); however, a fee equal to the average cost(s) of all services to be provided shall be charged per animal. To show the animal's origin, persons wishing to surrender an animal must be Caddo Parish residents and show the following:

(a) Photo identification with a Caddo Parish address;

(b) One piece of mail addressed to the person, at the address on the photo identification.

Sec. 14-31. – Adoptions.

(1) All animals to be adopted from Caddo Parish Animal Services must be spayed or neutered by a licensed veterinarian, vaccinated against rabies, registered, tagged or microchipped and given one month of heartworm prevention treatment prior to leaving the animal shelter. Adoption fees will be set at reasonable rates and published on the Caddo Parish website.

(2) Within 14 days of adoption, the owner may exchange the adopted animal.

(3) All animals over three months of age adopted from animal welfare organizations must be spayed or neutered by a licensed veterinarian prior to release to a new owner.

(4) A letter of agreement must be signed by the adopter of a puppy or kitten less than three months of age guaranteeing that the animal will be spayed or neutered within 14 days of when the animal reaches three months of age. For animals in custody of Caddo Parish Animal Services that are being fostered through or held by an adopter, a spay/neuter appointment will be made with Robinson's Rescue and issued to the adopter at the time of the adoption.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if any provision or item of this Ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this Ordinance which can be given affect without the invalid provisions, items or applications and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all Ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall become effective in accordance with the provisions of [Shreveport City Charter Section 4.23](#).

THUS DONE AND ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Shreveport, Louisiana.

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

City Attorney's Office