

ORDINANCE NO. 1-2021

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CENTER, BEAVER COUNTY,
PENNSYLVANIA, REGULATING ANIMALS RUNNING AT LARGE AND
ANIMAL WASTE

WHEREAS, the Township of Center is desirous to maintain the integrity of the community including the cleanliness of its roadways and properties;

WHEREAS, the Township of Center further seeks to protect its residents by implementing polices and regulations regarding safety of its residents;

WHEREAS, the within Ordinance seeks to accomplish the aforesaid goals by instituting a policy regarding animals, specifically dogs, and the conduct required of its residents;

AND NOW, be it **ORDAINED** and it is hereby **ORDAINED** as follows:

1. Restrictions.

- (a) An owner or person in control of dog or cat shall not permit the same to run at large.
- (b) An owner or person in control shall have physical control of the animal when off their property, by means of a leash, lead, cord, chain, or cage, unless a dog/cat is being used to hunt or is in training as permitted by the Pennsylvania game laws, or is specially trained for search and rescue missions. Dogs/cats must be under sufficient control so as to prevent them from entering upon public property or the property of another person without that person's consent.
- (c) An owner or person in control shall not allow their dog/cat or other animal to bark, howl, cry, whine, or otherwise emit loud noises day or night so as to disturb the peace or quiet of any person, place or neighborhood or family.
- (d) Animals shall not be permitted to cause damage or destruction to property of another.
- (e) Animals shall not be permitted to commit a nuisance by allowing a dog/cat to secrete any solid waste on the property of another. No violation of this section shall occur if the person

in control of the offending animal promptly and voluntarily removes the animal waste within a reasonable time after the animal has caused the discharge of excrement or waste of any kind.

- (f) Animals shall not be permitted to chase or otherwise harass any person off the premises of the owner, in such a manner as to reasonably cause intimidation or to put such person in reasonable apprehension of bodily harm or injury.
- (g) Animals shall not be permitted to habitually chase, run alongside of, or bark at motor vehicles or bicycles off the premises of the owner.
- (h) An owner or person in control shall not enter public or private property where signs prohibit the presence of pets.

2. Enforcement

- (a) Any dog or cat found running at large within the Township of Center shall be taken and impounded in a place provided for that purpose. If the owner is known or the marks or identification can be found on the animal so that the owner can be ascertained, said owner shall be given notice to claim the dog or cat within the time frame specified by the laws of the commonwealth.
- (b) All animals so taken and seized shall be detained and properly kept and fed, and if claimed by the owner, shall be removed immediately by said person.
- (c) The owner of a dog or cat so detained and subsequently claimed shall pay all fees and charges as established by the facility contracted by the Township.
- (d) If the animal is not claimed within the time frame established by the commonwealth, said animal shall be disposed of in a humane manner as specified by the commonwealth or given to such person or persons who desire to care for the same. Such animal may also be sold for expenses.

3. Violations and Penalties.

Any person, firm or corporation who shall violate any provision of this part, upon conviction thereof in an action brought before a district judge in the manner provided for the enforcement of summary offenses under the Pennsylvania Rules of Criminal Procedure, shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than \$1,000 plus costs and, in default of payment of said fine and costs, to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 90 days. Each day that a violation of this part continues or each section of this part which shall be found to have been violated shall constitute a separate offense.

4. Severability

The provisions of this Ordinance shall be severable, and if any of its provisions shall be held to be unconstitutional or illegal, the validity of any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

ORDAINED this 16th day of August, 2021

ATTEST:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF CENTER
TOWNSHIP



