Never taken to council

ORDINANCE NO. 2012-05

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 99-20. REGULATING THE KEEPING AND CONTROL OF FREE-ROAMING CATS IN THE CITY OF MULBERRY, ARKANSAS.

DEFINITIONS:

Free-Roaming. For the purpose of this amendment, the term free-roaming means any cat that is not kept indoors, in an outdoor enclosure, or on a leash, whether registered with the city or not.

Kennel. A place where cats are bred for commercial purposes or where three (3) or more cats are kept confined on a premises, within the city limits of Mulberry, Arkansas.

Sterilization. To make unproductive; spay or neuter.

WHEREAS, The City of Mulberry has determined that there is an increase in the number of free-roaming cats in the City;

WHEREAS, The City of Mulberry has determined that these free-roaming cats have become a public nuisance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MULBERRY, ARKANSAS:

The following additions be made to Ordinance No. 99-20:

SECTION 1. REGULATIONS FOR KEEPING AND CONTROL OF FREE-ROAMING CATS IN THE CITY OF MULBERRY, ARKANSAS.

(1) That all cats within the city limits of Mulberry shall be registered annually as to the sex, name and address of the owner, and the name of the cat. At the time of such registration such owner shall obtain a license for such cat and pay a fee of $2.50 for each cat to the City of Mulberry. It shall be the duty of the owner to cause such license tag to be securely attached around the cat's neck and kept there at all times during the license period. Said license tag shall not be transferable. In case of loss of license receipt and tag, a duplicate may be obtained at a cost of $2.00.

(2) That all free-roaming cats shall be sterilized unless the owner's veterinarian, licensed by the state, certifies in writing that the animal is physically unable to reproduce or that the animal is medically compromised to the extent it cannot be sterilized safely.

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(3) No fees for licensing shall be accepted and no license will be issued to any owner without first having the cat for whom the license is sought vaccinated against rabies by a regularly licensed veterinarian within the last year, and having the cat for whom the license is sought sterilized. A certificate of such vaccination/sterilization shall be exhibited to said City before a license to keep such cat shall be issued. All cats must be vaccinated when reaching the age of six months. Any false statement as to a rabies certification/sterilization for a free-roaming cat shall subject such cat to being impounded.

(4) Any person having more than three (3) cats shall pay an annual fee of $100.00 and must vaccinate and register any cat at the age of six months. Said person must also obtain a privilege/business license for said kennel.

That the City of Mulberry may impound any free-roaming cat that is not in compliance with the above requirements in the interests of public health and safety.

That the City of Mulberry shall hold for redemption any cat which has been impounded for no less than three (3) business days after the day of impoundment.

That any owner seeking to redeem an animal shall present valid picture identification, acceptable proof of ownership, pay all fees and fines, and otherwise be in compliance with Ordinance No. 99-20 and 2012-05. Acceptable proof of ownership includes, but is not limited to, rabies certificate and City tag, veterinary records, or proof of purchase.

That the City of Mulberry will make reasonable efforts to notify owners when any impounded cat is wearing a City tag.

Any impounded ~~stray, feral, or~~ free-roaming cat not redeemed pursuant to the above provisions shall, upon the expiration of the time provided for in the provisions, become the absolute property of the City and may be disposed of according to the adoption or humane euthanasia policies of the American Humane Society.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF_____, 2012.

APPROVED: _____

Gary D. Baxter, Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Jerry Dickerson, Recorder-Treasurer

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