

Chapter 120. Animals

Article II. Animal Control

§ 120-21. Licensing of dogs.

A.

License required. All dogs in the Town must be licensed with the Town Clerk by the age of four months in a form prescribed by the Town Clerk and are required to present a current certificate of rabies at the time of licensing or the renewal of an existing license showing that the dog has been vaccinated to prevent rabies or, in lieu thereof, a statement certified by a licensed veterinarian stating that because of old age or other reason, the life of the dog would be endangered by the administration of the vaccine.

B.

Expiration of license. All dog licenses will be for a period of one year and will expire at the end of the month one year from the date of issue.

C.

Fees for licensing of dogs. The fee for a spayed or neutered dog and the fee for an unspayed or unneutered dog shall be as set forth on a fee schedule^[1] maintained by the Town Clerk, which fees shall include the New York State surcharge for the purpose of carrying out animal population control. Such fees are subject to being reviewed by the Town Board periodically and may be changed by a resolution of the Town Board, if deemed necessary.

[1]

Editor's Note: Said fee schedule is on file in the Town offices.

D.

Enumeration fee. If the Town Board determines the need for dog enumeration, such a fee, as set forth on a fee schedule maintained by the Town Clerk, will be assessed to all dogs found unlicensed or renewed at the time the enumeration is conducted.

E.

Purebred license. The Town will not issue purebred or kennel licenses. All dogs shall be licensed individually as per the fee system stated above.

F.

Service dogs. Any guide, service, hearing or detection dog shall be licensed in the same manner as any other dog, but there shall be no fee for such licensing.

G.

Animal shelter. Any dog seized or impounded at the Town animal shelter may also be licensed and issued an identification tag by the Town animal shelter.

H.

Purchase, renewal of license. All dog licenses may be purchased by visiting the Town offices or by regular mail. If licensing or renewing a license by mail, the appropriate fee must accompany the forms.

I.

Use of fees. All fees shall be used only for administering and enforcing this article and for the controlling of dogs and enforcing the provisions of Article 7 of the New York State Agricultural Law.

J.

Senior reduced fee. In lieu of the fee imposed by Subsection C of this section, a dog owner who is 65 years of age or older shall be charged a reduced dog license fee as set forth on a fee schedule maintained by the Town Clerk. In the event that the dog is owned by more than one person, each such owner must be 65 years of age or older for this reduced fee to apply.

K.

Failure to license. The local penalty for failure to license a dog shall be \$150.

L.

Fees nonrefundable. There will be no refund of fees.

M.

Notification requirement. The owner of any licensed dog shall notify the Town Clerk:

(1)

Of any change of ownership or in the address of the owner within 10 days of such change;

(2)

If the dog is lost or stolen within 10 days of such loss or theft; and/or

(3)

Of the dog's death prior to or at the time of its scheduled license renewal.

N.

Exemptions.

(1)

Any dog harbored within the Town which is owned by a resident of New York City and licensed by the City of New York, or which is owned by a nonresident of New York State and licensed by a jurisdiction outside the State of New York, shall, for a period of 30 days, be exempt from the licensing and identification provisions of this article.

(2)

No license is required for a dog confined to a public or private hospital devoted solely to the treatment of sick animals, or confined for the purpose of research by any college or other educational or research institution.

(3)

No license is required for dogs confined to the premises of any person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of breeding or raising dogs for profit and licensed as a Class A dealer under the Federal Laboratory Animal Welfare Act.