

Chapter 6.12 - IMPOUNDING

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6.12.010 Registration and Separation to Licensed and Unlicensed Animals Required.

It shall be the duty of every police officer or other designated official to apprehend any animal found running at large and to impound that animal in the municipal pound or other suitable place. The pound master (or other designated person) upon receiving any animal shall make a complete registry listing the breed, color, markings and sex of the animal and whether licensed. If the animal is licensed he shall also record the name and address of the owner and the number of the license. Licensed animals shall be boarded separate from unlicensed animals.

6.12.020 Authorized When -- Redemption Fee.

If any animal is found running at large, it is the duty of the pound master or other designated person to take up and confine that animal in a suitable, secure place. Any animal taken up and confined shall not be released until the owner or person entitled to possession has paid to the officer having the animal in his keeping or to the city clerk, the fee for the taking up of the animal and any license or registration fees due, together with the charges for each day the animal was kept by the officer and the moneys shall be remitted to the city treasurer. These fees shall be established by resolution of the governing body.

8.12.030 Notice to Owner Required -- Reclaiming Charges.

Not later than one day after the impounding of any animal, the owner shall be notified, or if the owner of the animal is unknown, notice shall be published in the official newspaper of the city, describing the animal by breed, color and markings, sex, size, and noting the time and place of taking (capture). The owner of any animal so impounded may reclaim the animal upon payment of the license or registration fee, if unpaid, and of all costs and charges incurred for impounding and maintenance of the animal. The charges for impounding any animal shall be established by the governing body.

6.12.040 Releasing Confined Animals Prohibited.

It is unlawful to release by any method, directly or indirectly, or to aid or assist in the releasing of any animal lawfully confined by any person.

6.12.050 Unclaimed or Infected Animals -- Disposition.

The pound master or other designated official shall keep all impounded animals confined for a period of five days following publication of notice of impoundment in the official newspaper of the city. If at the expiration of the five days the animal has not been redeemed, it may be destroyed or sold. Any animal which appears to be suffering from hydrophobia, mange or other infectious or dangerous disease shall not be released but may be destroyed immediately.

6.12.060 Unclaimed Animals -- Sale Authorized When -- Notice Required.

If the owner or person entitled to possession of an animal does not pay charges and take possession of the animal within five working days from the time of notification of impoundment or official publication of said notice, the pound master or other designated official may sell the animal at public auction. This sale shall be held at least five working days after notice of the sale is published in the official newspaper of the city and notice is legally made to the owner of the animal, if known. The animal may be redeemed at any time before the date of sale by payment to the officer in charge or to the city clerk of any fees, expenses and charges incurred in the impoundment of the animal.

6.12.070 Sale Revenues -- Disposition.

In case any animal is sold in accordance with section 6.12.060 for more than is sufficient to pay the incurred fees and charges the excess shall, by the officer in charge or by the city clerk, be paid to the owner of the animal or the person entitled to possession of the animal upon an order by the governing body and proper proof and claim within one year from the date of the sale.

6.12.080 Municipal Pound.

The Mayor, upon approval of the city council, is authorized to establish a municipal pound and/or enter into an agreement with any person or entity, whether contractual or otherwise, for the capture, impoundment, keeping, care and disposal of animals seized or impounded in accordance with the provisions of title six (6) of the municipal code.