

Ordinance No. 00260

[Council Meeting Minutes 01/03/19](#)

ORDINANCE NO. 260

AN ORDINANCE of the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Washington amending Sections 6.02.070, 6.02.085, 6.06.030 and 6.06.040 of the Lakewood Municipal Code, relating to animal control fees

WHEREAS, in order to address animal control issues in the City of Lakewood, the City has contracted for animal control services; and,

WHEREAS, one of the aspects of animal control services would be effective licensing measures; and,

WHEREAS, in order to adequately address animal licensing needs, it is appropriate to provide for fees in an amount reflective of what is needed to represent the costs involved, and convenient adjustment of those fees would be better enhanced were the fees included in the City's fee schedule; and,

WHEREAS, it is also appropriate to address late fees, tied to the mailing or delivery of license renewal notices, rather than unspecified dates; and,

WHEREAS, it is also appropriate to specify that mandatory spay/neuter fees shall be paid to the City's Animal Control Agency, rather than specifying the particular, current animal control agency.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, WASHINGTON DO ORDAIN as follows:

1. That Section 6.02.070 of the Lakewood Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

6.02.070 Redemption of Dogs.

The owner of any dog impounded under this Chapter may redeem said dog within forty-eight hours from time of impounding by paying to the Animal Control Agency a redemption fee of ~~\$25.00~~~~60.00~~ for the first time impounded within any twelve month period. A redemption fee of ~~\$50.00~~~~100.00~~ for the second impound within any twelve month period, and a redemption fee of ~~\$75.00~~ for the third or any subsequent impound within any twelve month period shall be collected. If a dog is wearing a current pet license at the time of the first such impound, no redemption fee shall be collected. In addition to the redemption fee, the redeemer shall pay, as a boarding charge for the caring and keeping of such dog, the sum of \$5.50 per day for each day, including the first and last days, that the dog is retained by the impounding authority. This boarding charge will be collected for all dogs retained by the impounding authority, including dogs wearing a current pet license at the time of their first impound within any twelve month period. The redemption fee shall be paid to the City of Lakewood. It is provided, however, that if the dog is not currently licensed, the owner must obtain a valid, current license for the dog prior to redemption, and that prior to the redeemed dog being released to the owner, said owner must show a receipt or other satisfactory proof that all redemption fees and/or licensing fees have been paid in full. If such dog is not redeemed by the owner within forty-eight hours, then any person may redeem it within the next forty-eight hours by complying with the above provision, and in case such dog is not redeemed at the end of such time, it may be humanely destroyed or otherwise disposed of within the discretion of the Animal Control Agency. (Ord. 149 Â§ 1, 1997; Ord. 40 Â§ 1 (part), 1996.)

2. That Section 6.02.085 of the Lakewood Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

6.02.085 Mandatory Spay/Neuter for Impounded Dogs and Cats - Deposit - Refund - Exception.

A. Mandatory Spay/Neuter - Deposit. No unaltered dog or cat that is impounded more than once in any twelve month period may be redeemed by any person until the sum of \$35.00 is deposited with the ~~Tacoma-Pierce County Humane Society~~ Animal Control Agency to cover the cost of spaying or neutering the animal.

B. Refund. The alteration deposit shall be refunded upon a showing of proof of alteration from a licensed veterinarian.

C. Exception. The alteration deposit shall not be required if the owner or other person redeeming the animal provides a written statement from a licensed veterinarian that the spay or neuter procedure would be harmful to the animal. (Ord. 40 Â§ 1 (part), 1996.)

3. That Section 6.06.030 of the Lakewood Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

6.06.030 Fees.

The annual license fees for the ownership, keeping, or having control of dogs and/or cats in the City shall be as set forth in the City of Lakewood Fee Schedule. ~~follows:~~

A. Adult Dogs: altered -- -- \$ 8.50

unaltered -- -- \$50.00

B. Juvenile Dogs: -- -- \$ 2.50

C. Adult Cats: altered -- -- \$ 5.00

unaltered -- -- \$50.00

D. Juvenile Cats: -- -- \$ 2.50

E. Reduced rates for senior citizens, sixty-five years of age or older:

1. Dogs: altered -- -- \$ 5.00

unaltered -- -- \$28.00

2. Cats: altered -- -- \$ 2.50

unaltered -- -- \$28.00

In order to receive the fee advantage for altered dogs and cats, an individual must provide either proof of alteration from a licensed veterinarian or a written statement from a licensed veterinarian that the spay/neuter procedure would be harmful to the animal. (Ord. 149 Â§ 6, 1997; Ord. 40 Â§ 3 (part), 1996.)

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4. That Section 6.06.040 of the Lakewood Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

6.06.040 Late Payment Penalty.

A. Any person who fails to obtain a license ~~30 days after the license expiration date but before a point in time 60 days after the~~

~~license expiration date shall pay a late payment penalty of ten dollars (\$10.00) per license, in addition to the license fee. Any person who fails to obtain a license on or after a point in time within 60 days after the license expiration of the date that the license renewal notice was mailed or delivered (if not mailed) shall pay a late payment penalty of twenty dollars (\$20.00) per license, in addition to the license fee.~~

B. No late payment penalty shall be charged on new license applications if:

1. The owner submits proof of purchase or acquisition of the animal within the preceding thirty (30) days; or
2. The owner has moved into the City within the preceding thirty (30) days; or
3. The animal is currently or has been within the preceding thirty (30) days, under the age requires a license; or
4. The owner purchases the license(s) voluntarily, prior to in person or field contact by animal control personnel; or
5. The owner submits other proof deemed acceptable in the animal control authority's administrative policy. (Ord. 149 Â§ 7, 1997; Ord. 40 Â§ 3 (part), 1996.)

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5. That if any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance.

6. That this Ordinance shall be in full force in effect five (5) days after publication of the Ordinance Summary, as provided by law.

ADOPTED by the City Council this 19th day of March, 2001.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD

Bill Harrison, Mayor

Attest:

Alice M. Bush, CMC, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

Daniel B. Heid, City Attorney

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