

Sponsor(s) : Development Committee
 First Reading : January 10, 2017
 Committee Referral : Development Committee
 Committee Consideration Date : January 10, 2017
 Committee Recommendation :
 Second Reading :
 Public Hearing :
 Third Reading :
 Effective Date :

ORDINANCE NO.

COUNCIL ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR AIKEN COUNTY

(To Amend Various Sections of Chapter 4 – Animals and Fowl of the Aiken County Code of Ordinances.)

WHEREAS:

1. The Animal Control Ordinance is designed to ensure the welfare of the animals and citizens of Aiken County; and
2. It is prudent, from time to time, to study County ordinances to ensure compatibility with Federal and State laws.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED BY THE AIKEN COUNTY COUNCIL THAT:

1. To create a Section in Chapter 4, Article I of the Aiken County Code of Ordinances as follows:

Section 4-1. Tethering Dogs.

- A. No person shall tether, fasten, chain, tie or restrain a dog, cause a dog to be tethered, fastened, chained, tied or restrained to a house, tree, fence, or any stationary object.
- B. Notwithstanding division (A) above, a person may do any of the following:
 1. Attach a dog to a running line, pulley or trolley system. A dog shall not be tethered to the running line, pulley or trolley system by means of a choke collar or a pinch collar and the running like, pulley or trolley system shall be maintained and monitored as to prevent injury to the dog.
 2. Tether, fasten, chain or tie a dog no longer than is necessary for the person to complete a temporary task that requires the dog to be restrained for a reasonable period.
 3. Tether, fasten, chain or tie a dog while engaged in, or actively training for, and activating that is conducted as a sanctioned event or activity by the County.
- C. Nothing in this chapter shall be constructed to prohibit a person from walking a dog with a hand held leash.

2. To amend Chapter 4, Article I, Section 4-11 of the Aiken County Code of Ordinances as follows:

- (b) A one-time, registration fee of thirty dollars (\$30.00) per animal shall be paid to Aiken County through the litter and animal control division of the public works and engineering Code Enforcement Department.

3. To amend Chapter 4, Article V, Section 66 (a) of the Aiken County Code of Ordinances as follows:

- (a) All animals which have been impounded or brought to the shelter and are not suffering from or suspected to have an infectious or contagious disease or which have not been injured to such an extent that it would cause unjustifiable pain or suffering and are picked up with no identification, shall be taken to the county shelter or designated facility and held for a minimum of five (5) working days, ~~exclusive of~~ to include the day of pickup, Sundays, and holidays. If the 5th day falls on a Sunday or holiday, the animal will be held until close of the next business day.

All animals which have been impounded or surrendered to the shelter and are deemed, by virtue of their behavior, to be wild or feral (reverted to a wild state) by the county veterinarian, or two Aiken County Animal Control staff members, and have no identifiable indicators of ownership may be disposed of by an approved method of euthanasia so as to prevent potential injury or the spread of disease and/or rabies to humans or domesticated animals. (Reference Section 47-3-310 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended)

All animals which have been impounded and are not suffering from or suspected to have an infectious or contagious disease or which have not been injured to such an extent that it would cause unjustifiable pain or suffering and are picked up wearing identification tags and/or bearing a tattoo, shall be taken to the county shelter or other designated facility and held for a minimum of ten (10) working days, exclusive of day of pick up, Sundays, or holidays. If the 10th day falls on a Sunday or holiday, the animal will be held until the close of the next business day.

4. All provisions in other County Ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.
5. If any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application and to this end, the provisions of this Ordinance are severable.

This Ordinance shall become effective on _____.

Adopted at the regular meeting of Aiken County Council on _____.

ATTEST:

SIGNED:

Tamara Sullivan, Council Clerk

Ronnie Young, Chairman

REVIEWED BY: _____
James M Holly, County Attorney

COUNCIL VOTE: