



City Council Minutes

September 27, 2018

The City Council of The Village, Oklahoma, met in special session at City Hall on Thursday, September 27, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. at 2304 Manchester Drive.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Sonny Wilkinson, Mayor
Cathy Cummings, Vice-Mayor
Bubba Symes, Council Member
Dave Bennett, Council Member
Stan Alexander, Council Member

STAFF PRESENT

Bruce K. Stone, City Manager
Leslie Batchelor, City Attorney
Matt Gomez, Research Assistant
Ken Nelson, Building Inspector

GUESTS:

Mike Ray, Reporter OKC Friday

ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER.

Mayor Wilkinson called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

ITEM II: DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS TO ANIMAL REGULATIONS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, POTENTIALLY VICIOUS ANIMALS AND VICIOUS ANIMALS.

City Attorney Leslie Batchelor provided the Council and outline of preliminary recommendations for discussion. The recommendations presented and discussed were as follows:

Preliminary Recommendations for Considerations for Animal Control and Dog Safety.

1. Improve Confinement Ordinances Current: Sec. 5-24. Running at large.

It shall be unlawful for any person to fail to keep any dog or cat in his custody physically confined on his property or confined by a leash at all times when not on the custodian's property.

Recommendations:

- *Revise to eliminate ambiguity created by "when not on the custodian's property."*



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- *Separate dogs from cats to have clearer confinement requirements for dogs.*
- *Better define "confinement," such as other cities do.*
- *Make proper fence enclosures enforceable against the property owner, as well as the dog owner. (Revise Section 5-7 to include fence maintenance.)*

2. Refine "Potentially Vicious" Definition and Requirements Current: Sections 5-75 through 5-78.

Recommendations:

- *Revise "potentially vicious" to "potentially dangerous" to reflect the risk caused by animals that may be territorial or protective but are not trained or by nature generally "vicious."*
- *Allow the judge discretion to impose one or more of the requirements for potentially dangerous dogs as appropriate based on the facts and circumstances of the case.*

3. Allow Judicial Discretion for Banishment vs. Destruction. Current: Sections 5-102 and 5-103. Judge must order vicious dog to be destroyed unless "good cause" is shown that the animal should not be destroyed.

Recommendations:

- *Revise 5-102 to allow the judge to determine whether banishment or death is appropriate based on the facts and circumstances of the case.*

4. Improve Enforcement of Existing Code.

- *Cite as a public nuisance the failure to maintain a fence where a dog is kept so as to not allow a dog to go through. (Sec. 15-1 & 15-25(6))*
- *Cite dog owners for allowing dog to "run at large" or be off leash. (Sec. 5-24 & 5-28)*



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5. Education and Publicity.

The Council took no formal action.

ITEM III: ADJOURNMENT:

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Mayor Wilkinson

Vice-Mayor Symes

Council Member Bennett

Council Member Cummings

City Clerk

Council Member Alexander