Republic of the Philippines
QUEZON CITY COUNCIL
Quezon City
19th City Council

PO19CC-028
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48th Regular Session

ORDINANCE NO. SP-2386, S-2014

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE ANIMAL REGULATION AND CONTROL IN QUEZON CITY AND PROVIDING PENALTY FOR VIOLATION THEREOF.

Introduced by Councilors RAQUEL MALAÑGEN and JESSICA CASTELO DAZA.

Co-Introduced by Councilors Anthony Peter D. Crisologo, Dorothy A. Delarmente, Lena Marie P. Juico, Victor V. Ferrer, Jr., Alexis R. Herrera, Precious Hipolito Castelo, Voltaire Godofredo L. Liban III, Roderick M. Paulate, Ranulfo Z. Ludovica, Ramon P. Medalla, Estrella C. Valmocina, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Gian Carlo G. Sotto, Franz S. Pumaren, Eufemio C. Lagumbay, Jose Mario Don S. De Leon, Jesus Manuel C. Suntay, Marvin C. Rillo, Vincent DG. Belmonte, Bayani V. Hipol, Julienne Alyson Rae V. Medalla, Godofredo T. Liban II, Andres Jose G. Yllana, Jr., Allan Butch T. Francisco, Karl Edgar C. Castelo, Candy A. Medina, Diorella Maria G. Sotto, Marivic Co-Pilar, Rogelio "Roger" P. Juan, Melencio "Bobby" T. Castelo, Jr., Donato C. Matias and Ricardo B. Corpuz.

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 8485, otherwise known as the "Animal Welfare Act of 1998", was enacted for the purpose of protecting and promoting the welfare of all animals in the Philippines;

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WHEREAS, Republic Act No.7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991", empowers the Sanguniang Panlungsod to enact ordinances that regulates activities within the city in order to promote the general welfare" and thus for the said purpose states in Section 458 (4) viii of the said code that it "shall provide for the impounding of stray animals; regulate the keeping of animals in home or as part of a business, and the slaughter, sale, or disposition of the same; and adopt measures to prevent and penalize cruelty to animals";

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9482, otherwise known as "Anti-Rabies Act of 2006" declares that it is the policy of the State to promote the right to health of the people;

WHEREAS, under Ordinance No. SP-2155, S-2012, the City Veterinarian has the responsibility to ensure that all domesticated animals are properly immunized, registered, and that every immunized and registered animal be issued a tag;

WHEREAS, under Ordinance No. SP-1686, S-2006, all owners of dogs residing within the territorial jurisdiction of Quezon City are required to have their dogs vaccinated with Anti-Rabies vaccines;

WHEREAS, under Ordinance No. SP-1373, S-2004, the City pound section under the Veterinary Services Division of the Quezon City Health Department is empowered to regulate the keeping of Domestic animals and to eliminate stray and ownerless animals;

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. SP-1638, S-2005, or otherwise known as "Regulating the Ownership, Possession and/or keeping of Dogs in Homes and business" was enacted to safeguard the public from possible animal hazards;

WHEREAS, under Ordinance No. SP-1735, S-2006, provides that no animal stockade for livestock shall be maintained and operated within the territorial jurisdiction of Quezon City;

WHEREAS, there are diseases that can be transmitted from animals to Humans. Rabies, salmonella, ringworm these are all zoonotic diseases, which mean that they can be transmitted from animals to people;

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WHEREAS, there is an increasing number of incidents of animal bites in Quezon City and the city places consistently high in positive rabies cases in the National Capital Region;

WHEREAS, Section 3 of the "Animal Protection and Care Act" recognizes the freedom of Animals, such as freedom from hunger and thirst, comfort, pain, injury or disease, and freedom to normal behavior from fear and distress;

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. TITLE- This Ordinance shall be known as "AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE ANIMAL REGULATION AND CONTROL IN QUEZON CITY AND PROVIDING PENALTY FOR VIOLATION THEREOF";

SECTION 2. DEFINITION OF TERMS- For purposes of this ordinance, the following terms shall mean:

"Animal"- refer to any animal of whatsoever specie, genus, family, size, and purpose which include but is not limited to dogs, cats, and birds;

"Animal ID Card"- shall refer to the plastic or metal label permanently hanging around the neck of each registered dog or cat, consisting of such information or serial numbers that would exactly and clearly identify the pet animal upon which the tag is imposed with the registration certificate issued therefor;

"Animal owner"- refers to any person keeping, harboring, or having charge, care or control of an animal including his representative and allows any such animal to remain about his premises for a period of 10 days or more;

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"Animal welfare"- the avoidance of exploitation of animals by maintaining appropriate standards of accommodation, feeding and general care, the prevention and treatment of the disease, and the assurance of freedom from harassment and unnecessary discomfort and pain;

"Bitten"- refers to an act by which a dog or cat seizes, cuts or grips with its teeth a person so that the skin of that person has been wounded, pierced or scratched;

"Breeder"- refers to individuals who own specialized variety of domesticated animals within the species with the main purpose of increasing the said species;

"Domesticated animals"- although all mammals can become infected with the rabies virus, only cats and dogs are covered in this ordinance;

"Depressed area"- region where unemployment and a low standard of living prevails;

"Euthanasia"- mercy killing, putting an end to the life of an animal;

"Fowls"- any of several domesticated animals such as chicken;

"Impound"- to seize and hold in custody of the law;

"Neutering"- refers to the surgical removal under anesthesia of the ovaries and the uterus in the female, and testicles for the male animals, as performed by a licensed veterinarian;

"Pound"- refers to a public enclosure for stray animals;

"Public place"- refers to any place open to the public like parks, malls, markets, streets, etc.

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"Rabies"- shall pertain to the fatal viral disease of the nervous system of warm-blooded animals caused by rhabdovirus (genus Lyssavirus) usually transmitted through the bite of an infected animal and is characterized typically by increased salivation, abnormal behavior, and eventually paralysis and death;

"Rabies-susceptible Pet Animals"- shall refer to all warm-blooded animals such as, but not limited to carnivorous species (dogs, cats, etc.) and other mammals such as, but not limited to, bats including vampire bats, rodents, carabaos, cattle, goats, monkeys, etc. that are not immune from rabies and are kept commonly as pets;

"Registration fee"- shall refer to the legal cost of registration the Office of the City Veterinarian may impose against pet owners as a result of the compulsory registration of all domesticated cats and dogs;

"Rabies vaccination"- refers to the inoculation of a domesticated animal with rabies vaccine by a licensed and social disorganization;

"Stray Dog"- refers to any dog leaving its owners place or premise, and is no longer under the effective control of the owner;

"Vaccination"- means inoculation of dog/cat with standard rabies vaccine by a licensed government or private veterinarian or trained individual under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian. The services of said individual shall be limited only to rabies vaccination injection to dogs and cats during government mass-vaccination campaign;

"Vicious animal"- means any animal with known tendency to attack unprovoked or cause injury or otherwise threaten the safety of human beings or other animals, or has bitten any person;

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"Zoonotic disease"- diseases that can be transmitted from animals to humans;

SECTION 3. ANIMAL REGISTRATION- All Animals shall be licensed and registered with the City Veterinarian after they reach three (3) months of age.

The following shall be the requirements for animal license and registration:

1. Accomplished registration form;
2. Certificate of Anti-Rabies vaccination, in the absence of which, the physical presence of such dog or cat to be registered;
3. If neutered, a certification from the veterinarian;
4. Special permit for commercial business of breeding, buying, selling, trading, training of animals;
5. Two Hundred Pesos (P 200.00) per pet animal exclusive of the cost of animal tags.

SECTION 4. ANIMAL TAGS AND LICENSE- Each registered animal shall be issued a tag which shall be securely displayed on the animal at all times. The absence of a tag is prima facie evidence of Non-Registration;

The City Veterinarian shall also issue an Animal Identification Card (Animal ID Card) which shall contain the following information:

1. Name and Address of the owner;
2. Date of issuance of tags and license;
3. Tag and license number;
4. Name, breed, species, birth date, sex and color, and/ or markings of the animal;
5. Date of most recent anti-rabies vaccination;

SECTION 5. VACCINATION- All animals which could be carriers of the rabies virus are required to be vaccinated to qualify for registration. Certificates of vaccination issued and/or validated by the City veterinarian shall be a requirement for animal registration.

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It shall be the duty of any person who owns or harbors any dog or cat in the city to have them inoculated by a licensed veterinarian. Vaccination shall be valid for a period of One (1) year from the date of inoculation.

No person, while residing in Quezon City, shall keep as pet any dog or cat which is unvaccinated with Anti-Rabies vaccines. The refusal or failure by any owner thereof to have their animal vaccinated shall be punishable with the maximum penalty provided for under this Ordinance;

SECTION 6. PET RESTRICTION PER HOUSEHOLD- Pet should be kept to a maximum number of four (4) per household.

It shall be allowable to keep more than four (4) pets provided the space and vaccination requirements are complied by the owner of the animals and after securing a Special Permit under Section 8 hereof. All animals shall be kept with sufficient space requirement appropriate per animal.

Sufficient space requirement appropriate for dogs and cats:

A. For individually-caged dogs:

Dogs confined in a cage or kennel should have a room to move about normally. Cages for indoor holding should be clean and sanitary and should follow these minimum guidelines:

1. *Large dogs (more than 50 lbs) at least 4 feet by 6 feet or 24 square feet;*
2. *Medium sized dogs (36-50 lbs) at least 4 feet by 5 feet or 20 square feet;*
3. *Small dogs (10-35 lbs) at least 3 feet by 4 feet or 12 square feet;*

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B. For shared kennel:

Dogs who share kennel must be evaluated for compatibility and monitored closely. Each should have ample room to stand, lie down, turn around and sit normally. These require a minimum area of 4x4 feet for each dog. A shared 5x10 feet kennel should hold no more than 2 large dogs or 2 medium dogs or 3 small dogs.

C. For Cats:

The cage should be of the same size as that of a small dog. Kennels with runs whether fully enclosed (outdoor or indoor) should follow the minimum size guidelines:

1. Kennels- 4 feet by 6 feet;
2. Runs- 4 feet by 8 feet.

SECTION 7. EXEMPT ANIMALS - The following are exempted from the abovementioned Provisions:

1. Dogs/ cats brought to the city exclusively or the purpose of registering them as participants in dog/ cat shows or other similar exhibitions;

2. Dogs/ Cats owned or in the custody of or under the control of persons who are non-residents of the City or temporarily sojourning thereat for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days;

3. Animals other than dogs and cats, except for those animals that require proper and necessary clearance and permit from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), that are not space consuming e.g. goldfish, lovebirds and the likes, whose number can be more than four (4) but not exceeding thirty (30).

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