CHAPTER 54: DOG CONTROL
ARTICLE I: GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 54.1 Purpose

It is the purpose of this article to protect the health, safety and general welfare of the inhabitants of the Town of Camillus by regulating the actions and behavior of dogs in the Town of Camillus, New York, so as to afford consistent protection of the rights and privileges of dogs or the owners thereof and the rights and privileges of other citizens in the Town of Camillus, New York. This article is enacted pursuant to Article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law of the State of New York and is enacted for the purpose of supplementing the provisions contained in said law.

§ 54.2 Definitions

A. Unless the context otherwise indicates, the terms, phrases and words used in this article shall have the same meaning as those defined in § 108 of the Agriculture and Markets Law.

B. As used in this article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

ADOPTION: The delivery to any natural person 18 years of age or older, for the limited purpose of harboring a pet, of any dog, seized or surrendered.

AT LARGE: Standing, running, walking or otherwise roaming about without being restricted or restrained by a leash, rope, cord or chain attached to a fixed, immovable object or held by a person of sufficient size, strength and ability to effectively control and restrict the movements of such dog. No dog shall be deemed to be at large if it is:

1. Upon property owned or leased by the owner or other person having custody of the dog;

2. Upon property owned or leased by any other person with the consent of such person;

3. A guide dog actually leading a blind person; or

4. Accompanied by and under the control of its owner or other responsible person and actively engaged in hunting during hunting season or training for hunting on unposted land or on posted land with the permission of the owner of the land.

DETECTION DOG: Any dog that is trained and is actually used for such purposes or is undergoing training to be used for the purpose of detecting controlled substances, explosive, ignitable liquids, firearms, cadavers, or school or correctional facility contraband.

DOG: Any member of the species c*anis familiaris*.

DOG CONTROL OFFICER: Any individual appointed by the Town of Camillus to assist in the enforcement of this article and Article 7 of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law or any authorized officer, agent or employee of an incorporated humane society or similar incorporated dog protective association under contract with the Town of Camillus to assist in the enforcement of this

article.

GUIDE DOG: Any dog that is trained to aid a person who is blind and is actually used for such purpose, or any dog owned by a recognized guide dog training center located with the state during the period such dog is being trained or bred for such purpose.
HARBOR: To provide food or shelter to any dog.

HEARING DOG: Any dog that is trained to aid a person with a hearing impairment and is actually used for such purpose, or any dog owned by a recognized training center located within the state during the period such dog is being trained or bred for such purpose.

IDENTIFICATION TAG: A tag which sets forth an official identification number, as required by the provisions of this article.

IDENTIFIED DOG: Any dog carrying an identification tag, as provided in Article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law.

OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: A series or combination of letters, numbers or symbols approved and furnished by the Town of Camillus.

OWNER: Any person who keeps, harbors, or is in lawful custody, of any dog.

OWNER OF RECORD: The person in whose name any dog was last licensed pursuant to this article and/or Article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law, except that if any license is issued on application of a person under 18 years of age, the owner of record shall be deemed to be the parent or guardian of such person.

PERSON: Any individual, corporation, partnership, association or other organized group of persons, municipality, or other legal entity.

PERSON WITH A DISABILITY: Any person with a disability as that term is defined in Subdivision 21 of § 292 of the Executive Law.

POLICE WORK DOG: Any dog owned or harbored by any state or municipal police department or any state or federal law enforcement agency, which has been trained to aid law enforcement officers and is actually being used for police work.

RECOGNIZED REGISTRY ASSOCIATION: Any registry association that operates on a nationwide basis, issues numbered registration certificates and keeps such records as may be required by the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Markets.

SERVICE DOG: Any dog that has been or is being individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of a person with a disability, provided that the dog is or will be owned by such person or that person's parent, guardian or other legal representative.

TOWN CLERK: Town of Camillus Town Clerk.

WAR DOG: Any dog which has been honorably discharged from the United States armed services.

WORKING SEARCH DOG: Any dog that is trained to aid in the search for missing persons, is actually used for such purpose and is registered with the Department of Agriculture and Markets; provided, however, that such services are rendered by said dog without charge or fee.

§ 54.3 Acts prohibited

A. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog to permit or allow it to run at large within the Town of Camillus. The fact that a dog is at large shall be presumptive evidence that the owner permitted or allowed said dog to run at large in violation of this article.

B. Barking and other noise.

1. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog to permit or allow said dog to bark, yelp, howl, cry or emit any other unreasonable noise for a continuous period of time so that such unreasonable noise causes or creates the risk of inconvenience, annoyance or alarm to the public or to others in the neighborhood, after first having had notice that said dog was making such unreasonable noise and failed to stop or prevent the same or made such unreasonable noise on a prior occasion.

2. An owner shall be deemed to have received notice under Subsection B(1) herein when he or she has been advised by a Town official or any police or peace officer that said dog has barked, yelped, howled, cried or emitted any other unreasonable noise for a continuous period of time so that such unreasonable noise has caused or created the risk of inconvenience, annoyance or alarm to the public or to others in the neighborhood, or when he or she has been previously charged with a violation of this Subsection B.

3. It shall be a violation of this article for the owner of any dog to allow, permit or fail to stop or prevent said dog from making unreasonable noise in accordance with Subsection B(1) herein after having been given notice in accordance with Subsection B(2) herein.

C. Dog Waste and Damage. It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog, even though it may be leashed, to permit said dog to:

1. Damage or destroy property not belonging to the owner or the person in control of the dog.

2. Deposit waste (feces) on the property of another without prior approval unless such waste is immediately removed for suitable and proper disposal.

3. Deposit waste (feces) on public property unless such waste is immediately removed for suitable and proper disposal.

§ 54.4 Seizure of dog; impoundment fees

A. The dog control officer of the Town of Camillus shall seize any dog running at large in violation of this article. Such seizure shall be carried out in addition to the commencement of proceedings to prosecute violations of this article.

B. Notice of the seizure of any identified dog shall be given in the manner required by § 117 of the Agriculture and Markets Law.

C. Each dog seized in accordance with the provisions of this article shall be impounded for the period of time and in the manner prescribed by § 117 of the Agriculture and Markets Law.

D. The owner of a seized dog shall pay a fee to the Town Clerk. The amount of such fee shall be established from time to time by resolution of the Town Board. In addition to the foregoing fees, the owner shall pay a fee, to be established by the Town Board, for each day or part thereof that the seized dog is boarded at facilities owned or operated by the Town of Camillus. All of the foregoing fees shall be paid in addition to any penalty imposed for a violation of this article.

E. Where the Town of Camillus contracts with a third-party for boarding, sheltering, and impound services, the owner shall be responsible for paying said third-party contractor for the applicable shelter/impound fees as well as any applicable veterinary or vaccination expenses incurred by the third-party contractor during the redemption period.

§ 54.5 Licensing; rabies vaccination requirement

A. Licensing of dogs

1. The owner of any dog reaching the age of four months shall immediately make application to the Town Clerk for a dog license pursuant to Article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law.

2. The application shall state the sex, age, breed, color, official identification number, and identification marks, if any, of the dog and the name, address and telephone number of the owner.

3. The application shall be accompanied by a fee, as set forth in § 54.6 of this article, and a current certificate of rabies vaccination or statement in lieu thereof, as required by Article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law. An application for a spayed or neutered dog shall be accompanied by either a certificate, executed by a licensed veterinarian, or an affidavit by the owner, verifying that such dog has been spayed or neutered; a certificate or affidavit shall not be required if the same is already on file with the Town Clerk. In lieu thereof, an owner may submit a statement, certified by a licensed veterinarian, verifying that an examination of the dog reveals that spaying or neutering will endanger the life of the dog. In such a circumstance, the license fee for the dog shall be the same as for a spayed or neutered dog, as set forth in Article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law.

4. Upon validation by the Town Clerk, no licensing fee shall be refunded, prorated or waived. No license fee is refundable, or partially refundable, in the event the dog is lost, stolen, sold, given away, surrendered or deceased before the expiration of the license.

5. The Town Clerk shall provide a copy of the license to the owner. If the application or renewal for a dog license is made by mail, the owner shall provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope for that purpose.

6. No license shall be transferable. Upon the transfer of ownership of any dog, the new owner shall immediately make application for a license.

7. Licenses shall be issued for a period of one year and shall expire on the last day of the month one year from the date of issue unless the owner presents a certificate of rabies vaccination for a duration longer than a one-year period. In such cases, the owner may elect to have the license expire on the last day of the month the license was obtained in the same year as the rabies vaccination expires. Under no circumstances, however, may a license exceed a three-year period. Multiple-year licenses shall be charged a fee for each year of the license term. Renewing early or late does not change the renewal month.

B. Relocation/relicensing

1. The owner of any dog that is currently licensed in another municipality must, upon harboring such dog in the Town of Camillus, obtain a Town of Camillus dog license within 30 days.

2. Any dog adopted or redeemed from an animal shelter must be licensed in the Town of Camillus and any applicable fees and expenses shall be paid to the animal shelter prior to the dog being released from such shelter.

C. Vaccination. The Town Clerk shall require the applicant to present a statement certified by a licensed veterinarian showing that the dog has been vaccinated to prevent rabies or, in lieu thereof, a statement certified by a licensed veterinarian stating that the administration of vaccine will endanger the life of the dog. The Town Clerk shall make, or cause to be made from such statement, a record of such information and shall file such record with a copy of the license.

§ 54.6 License fees

A. A fee schedule shall be established by resolution of the Town Board of the Town of Camillus and is available in the office of the Town Clerk. Such fee schedule may thereafter be amended from time to time by resolution of the Town Board. Fees shall be charged and collected prior to the issuance of a license.

B. There shall be no fee for any license issued for any guide dog, hearing dog, service dog, war dog, working search dog, detection dog, or police work dog. Each copy of any license for such dogs shall be conspicuously marked "Guide Dog," "Hearing Dog," "Service Dog,"

"War Dog," "Working Search Dog," "Detection Dog," or "Police Work Dog," as is appropriate, by the Town Clerk.

C. An additional fee, established and amended from time to time by resolution of the Town Board and on file with the Town Clerk, shall be imposed when a dog is identified as unlicensed during an enumeration period. Such additional fee shall be the property of the Town of Camillus and shall be used to pay the expenses incurred by the Town of Camillus in conducting the enumeration. In the event the additional fees collected exceed the expenses incurred by the Town of Camillus in conducting an enumeration in any year, such excess fees may be used to enforce this article.

D. In accordance with Article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law, each applicant for a dog license shall pay a surcharge, which shall be remitted to the Department of Agriculture and Markets for deposit into the animal population control fund. The amount of such surcharge shall be established and amended from time to time by resolution of the Town Board and shall be on file in the office of the Town Clerk. Pursuant to Article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law, guide dogs, hearing dogs, service dogs, war dogs, working search dogs, detection dogs, and police work dogs are not exempt from the surcharge set forth herein.

E. On or before the fifth day of each month, the Town Clerk shall remit all license fees to the Town Supervisor.

§ 54.7 Identification of dogs

A. Each dog licensed pursuant to this article shall be assigned, at the time of first licensing, a permanent official identification number which shall be featured on an identification tag affixed to a collar on the dog at all times, provided that a dog participating in a dog show shall be exempt from this requirement during such participation.

B. The official identification number shall constitute the official identification of the dog to which it is assigned, regardless of changes in ownership, and the number shall not be reassigned to any other dog during the lifetime of the dog to which it is assigned.

C. At the time a dog is first licensed, one identification tag shall be furnished to the owner at no charge. Should an official Town of Camillus dog identification tag be lost, a new tag will be issued at a fee prescribed by the Town Board of the Town of Camillus.

D. No tag carrying an official identification number shall be affixed to the collar of any dog other than the one to which that number is assigned.

E. The size, shape and form of imprints on identification tags shall be prescribed by resolution of the Town Board of Town of Camillus. Any tag bearing an imprint other than that prescribed shall not constitute valid identification for purposes of this article.

F. Fees received pursuant to this section shall be remitted by the Town Clerk to the Town Supervisor by the fifth day of each month.

§ 54.8 Change of ownership; lost or stolen dog

A. In the event of a change in the ownership of any dog which has been assigned an official identification number by the Town Clerk, or a change in the address of the owner of record of any such dog, the owner of record shall, within 10 days of such change, notify the Town Clerk of such change. Such owner or record shall be liable for any violation of this article until such notification is made or until the dog is licensed in the name of the new owner.

B. If any dog which has been assigned an official identification number is lost or stolen, the owner of record shall, within 10 days of the discovery of such loss or theft, notify the Town Clerk of such loss or theft. In the case of a loss or theft, the owner of record of any such dog shall not be liable for any violation of Article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law committed after notifying the Town Clerk.

C. In the case of a dog's death, the owner of record shall so notify the Town Clerk, in writing, either prior to renewal of licensure or upon the time of such renewal as set forth in § 54.6 of this article. Failure to so notify the Town Clerk shall constitute a violation and the owner of record shall be held liable.

§ 54.9 Seizure of dogs; redemption periods; impoundment fees

A. The owner of any dog impounded by the Town of Camillus shall be entitled to redeem that dog within five business days, excluding the day the dog is impounded, from the day the dog is impounded, provided that the owner produces proof the dog is licensed and identified and pays a fee, the amount of which shall be established and amended from time to time by resolution of the Town Board and is on file with the Town Clerk's office and further provided that the owner reimburses the Town of Camillus for any applicable veterinary or vaccination expenses incurred by the Town of Camillus.

B. As the property of the Town of Camillus, after receipt, all impoundment fees shall be remitted by the Town Clerk to the Town Supervisor on or before the fifth day of each month

C. Consistent with §54.4E, where the Town of Camillus contracts with a third-party for boarding, sheltering, and impound services, the owner shall be responsible for paying said third-party contractor for the applicable shelter/impound fees as well as any applicable veterinary or vaccination expenses incurred by the third-party contractor during the redemption period.

§ 54.10 Penalties for offenses

Any violation of this article shall be an offense punishable, upon conviction thereof, by a maximum fine of $250.00, the minimum of which shall be a fine of $50.00 for the first offense, $100.00 for the second offense, and $150.00 for the third or more offenses. This article shall be enforced by the Dog Control Officer or Codes Enforcement Officer of the Town of Camillus or by any police officer or peace officer; said officers are hereby authorized to issue and serve an appearance ticket with respect to any violation thereof; said enforcement shall be undertaken upon a written complaint signed by the person making the complaint and filed with the officer and other appropriate authorities or upon the officer's personal observation of any violation. Each day that the violation continues shall constitute a separate violation."

Historical Info:

Replaces repealed Chapter 54-Dog Control, LL #9-2026