

**DANGEROUS ANIMAL LICENSE APPLICATION**

Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Owner Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_



Pet Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Color: \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Spayed/Neutered: \_\_\_\_\_



Health:

Rabies Vaccination Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Rabies Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Vaccine Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_ Vaccine Serial Number: \_\_\_\_\_



Attach the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ Liability insurance policy written by an insurance company licensed to do business in the State of Wisconsin, covering death and personal injury, in the amount of at least \$300,000.00 and property damage in the amount of at least \$50,000.00. The policy shall provide notice to the city clerk 30 days in advance of any material change therein or of its termination or non-renewal.

\_\_\_\_\_ Current vaccination information for rabies.

\_\_\_\_\_ Current dog/cat license.

\_\_\_\_\_ Proof of spayed/neutered.

I certify that all the information provided on this form is true and correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

Sec. 6-102. - Vicious and dangerous animals.

(a) *Definitions.*

(1) *Dangerous animals* shall mean any animal that:

- a. Habitually pursues any vehicle upon any public street, alley or highway in the city; or
- b. Approaches or chases any person or domestic animal in a menacing fashion or apparent attitude of attack, without intentional provocation on public or private property; or
- c. Without provocation, behaves in a manner that a reasonable person would believe poses an unjustified imminent threat of serious injury or death to one or more persons or domestic animals; or
- d. Without provocation, causes a nonsevere, nonbite injury in a menacing fashion to any person or domestic animal; or
- e. Without provocation, has attacked, bitten or injured any person or domestic animal on public or private property.

(2) *Vicious animals* shall mean any animal that:

- a. Is defined as a dangerous animal and is not in compliance with the restrictions imposed by this section; or
- b. Has on two or more occasions bitten, injured, killed, damaged, or attacked any person or domestic animal on public or private property; or
- c. Has a propensity, tendency or disposition, known to the owner thereof, to attack, without provocation, in a manner which may cause death, injury, damage or which may otherwise endanger the safety of any person or domestic animal; or
- d. Is owned, harbored or trained primarily or in part for the purpose of fighting.

(b) *Procedure for declaring an animal vicious or dangerous.*

- (1) A police officer may determine any animal to be vicious or dangerous whenever, upon investigation, that officer finds that the animal meets the definition of vicious or dangerous as defined above.
- (2) The police officer, upon making the determination that an animal is vicious or dangerous, shall issue a written notice of the determination. Upon receipt of the written notice of determination by certified mail, the owner shall remove the vicious animal from the city or comply with the dangerous animal regulations within ten days of the date of the determination.
- (3) If the owner objects to the officer's determination, he or she may file a written objection contesting the determination with the city clerk within five days of receiving the written notice.
- (4) Upon receipt of the owner's written objection within the prescribed five days, the matter shall be placed on the soonest legislative and regulatory committee agenda practicable for review.
- (5) The legislative and regulatory committee shall act as a quasi-judicial body allowing the animal's owner an opportunity to present evidence as to why the animal should not be declared vicious or dangerous.
- (6) Pending the outcome of the hearing, the animal may be confined at the Columbia County Humane Society Animal Shelter, at the owner's expense. The city may require the appealing party to post a bond in an amount sufficient to satisfy the cost of holding the animal during the appeal period.
- (7) After the legislative and regulatory committee has made a decision and its report has been approved by the common council, the owner shall be notified of the decision in writing, by certified mail. If a decision is made that the officer's determination was correct, the owner shall

remove a vicious animal from the city or comply with the dangerous animal regulations within ten days.

(8) Failure to comply with a valid determination may result in the seizure and destruction of the animal.

(c) *Dangerous animal regulations.* No person shall own, possess, harbor, keep or maintain a dangerous animal contrary to the terms of this section.

(1) Dangerous animal license.

a. Any person who may own, possess, harbor, keep or maintain a dangerous animal as defined by this section shall do so only after first having obtained a dangerous animal license form the city clerk and only after complying with the terms of said license.

b. The term of the dangerous animal license shall be from January 1 through December 31 each year and the fee for the license shall be set forth in the city's official fee schedule on file with the city clerk.

c. A license may be granted and issued only upon proof of the following:

1. A liability insurance policy written by an insurance company licensed to do business in the State of Wisconsin, covering death and personal injury, in the amount of at least \$300,000.00 and property damage in the amount of at least \$50,000.00. The policy shall provide notice to the city clerk 30 days in advance of any material change therein or of its termination or nonrenewal.

2. Current vaccination for rabies.

3. Current license and spaying or neutering where the dangerous animal is a dog or cat.

d. A license granted and issued hereunder is conditioned upon the following:

1. Compliance with subsection (1)c. above.

2. The posting of warning signs, visible and capable of being read from the public right-of-way or within 40 feet of its placement, whichever is less, bearing the wording "WARNING DANGEROUS ANIMAL". Such signs shall be posted at each entrance to the building in which the dangerous animal is kept and at each entrance through any fence or enclosure where the dangerous animal is kept.

3. The dangerous animal, while off the premises where kept, shall be muzzled with a no-bite type muzzle, restrained as to movement by a collar or harness appropriate to the animal's size and a leash not greater than five feet in length, and under the direct control and supervision of a mentally competent adult, who is physically able to restrain the dangerous animal.

4. The dangerous animal, while on the premises where kept, shall be placed within a secured building or within a secured fence of sufficient height and construction to maintain the animal within.

(2) Failure to comply with terms of a dangerous animal license.

a. A dangerous animal that is owned, possessed, harbored, kept or maintained in violation of this section may be impounded or destroyed by the city, or its agents, at the expense of the violator following notice.

b. The appellate procedure described in subsection (b) above, shall be available to any dangerous animal owner who timely objects to notice that his/her dangerous animal is being kept in violation of this section, but only if the city is seeking the destruction of the dangerous animal.

(3) No person shall sell or transfer possession of a dangerous animal to another person without first notifying the person to whom the animal is being transferred, of the animal's dangerous

determination, the requirements of this section and notifying the city clerk, in writing, at least five business days in advance of the sale or transfer of possession.

- (4) Upon the death of a dangerous animal, the owner thereof shall provide written verification of the same within ten days of the date of death of the animal.
- (d) *Exemption.* This section shall not apply to restrict the training and/or use of dogs for and by public law enforcement agencies.
- (e) *Penalty.* In addition to any penalties contained herein, all violations of this section shall be subject to the penalty provisions contained in section 1-15.

(Code 1990, § 7-1-6(b); Ord. No. 07-006, 8-9-2007; Ord. No. 11-001, 2-24-2011)

**Cross reference**— Environment, ch. 26.