

ARTICLE VIII. IMPOUNDMENT; ADOPTION

8-1-1. Impoundment.

- (a) Any animal at large or otherwise in violation of the provisions of this Code may be impounded in the animal shelter in a humane manner for a period of not less than five (5) business days; and if within such time, an animal so impounded has not been reclaimed by its owner in accordance with the provisions of this Code, such animal shall become the absolute property of the animal control department, which may convey ownership of such animal to any responsible person, on such conditions as the animal control department may prescribe, or the animal control department may humanely destroy such animal.
- (b) The animal control department shall make a reasonable effort to notify the owner of any animal impounded in the animal shelter that the animal has been impounded, of the manner by which the animal may be reclaimed and that the animal may be destroyed or become the property of the animal control department as provided herein.
- (c) Prior to destruction of a dog at large which carries its owner's address and which is impounded in the animal shelter, the animal control authority shall mail a letter giving the owner (5) days' notice of the proposed destruction.
- (d) Notwithstanding any provision of this Code to the contrary, the animal control department may refuse to release any animal impounded in the animal shelter for rabies or contagious disease, quarantine, or for use as evidence in a criminal prosecution, for such time period as the animal control department may determine. After a

court appearance resulting in a conviction, the court may order that any animal seized as the result of a violation of this ordinance not be returned to the owner until any condition imposed by the court, relating to the confinement or care for said animal, has been met.

- (e) Notwithstanding any provision of this Code to the contrary, the animal control department may humanely destroy any animal impounded in the animal shelter upon the written opinion of a licensed veterinarian that destruction of the animal is necessary to prevent disease or injury to other animals or to humans due to overcrowding in the animal shelter, the presence or threatened presence of contagious disease, or any other condition.
- (f) Notwithstanding any provision of this Code to the contrary, the animal control department may humanely destroy any animal impounded in the animal shelter when the animal control department reasonably believes the animal has sustained an injury or disease which will likely result in maiming, prolonged and severe suffering, or death.

8-1-2. Reclaiming impounded animals.

- (a) The owner of an animal impounded in the animal shelter may reclaim the animal upon presenting evidence satisfactory to the animal control department of compliance with all provisions of this Code, and upon payment of fees and charges as hereinafter provided, credited to the account of the animal control department, and shall not be in lieu of any fine or penalty otherwise provided by law.
- (b) Fees (per animal) for reclaiming impounded animals are as follows:
 - (1) First offense \$20.00
Second offense \$40.00
Third offense \$75.00
Subsequent offense \$75.00
Lack of rabies vaccination and city license \$100.00.
 - (2) Rabbits, poultry and
birds, each offense \$15.00

- (3) Other animals,
each offense \$25.00
 - (4) Animals impounded for
rabies quarantine or for
use as evidence in
a criminal prosecution,
per day \$ 5.00
 - (5) In addition to the
foregoing fees, the
per day board for each
day the animal is
impounded in the animal
shelter \$ 5.00.
- (c) The owner of an animal impounded in the animal shelter shall be liable for the foregoing fees and charges, notwithstanding the destruction or adoption of the animal.

8-1-3. Adoption

The animal control department may convey ownership (permit adoption of) any animal which has become the property of the animal control department to a responsible person subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by the animal control department, including, without limitation, to the following:

- (a) Payment of a twenty dollar (\$20.00) adoption fee for a dog, five dollar (\$5.00) fee for a cat; and
- (b) Evidence satisfactory to the animal control department that the animal has, or will be examined by veterinarian and vaccinations against rabies and other disease administered.
- (c) Evidence satisfactory to the animal control department that the animal has, or will be, neutered.