

CHAPTER 16 DOG BY-LAW

1. In this by-law:
 - 1) "Clerk" means the Town Clerk, or in her absence, the Town Manager or the Deputy Town Clerk;
 - 2) "Dog" means any dog, male or female;
 - 3) "Dog Control Officer" means a Town police officer, or by-law enforcement officer, appointed under the Police Act to enforce this by-law.
 - 4) "Fierce or dangerous" dog means any dog who has attacked without provocation other domestic animals or persons.
 - 5) "Owner" of a dog includes any person who possesses or harbours a dog;
 - 6) "Town" means the Town of Bridgewater.
 2. On or before the first day of April in each year, the owner of any dog shall register such dog with the Clerk, shall pay the tax provided therefore by this by-law, and shall obtain from the Clerk a tag for such dog.
 3.
 - 1) The owner of a dog who has become the owner thereof after the first day of April, and which dog is not registered in his name with the Clerk, shall, within fifteen days after he has become owner, register the dog and pay the tax, obtain a tag and attach it to the collar of the dog.
 - 2) A tax paid at any time after the first day of April shall be the same amount of tax required to be paid on or before the first day of April notwithstanding that it is for any part of a year; but where the owner requires ownership of the dog after expiration of six months of the registered year, he shall only be charged one-half of the dog tax.
 - 3) Registration made and tax paid after the first day of April shall be effective until the last day of March next following the making and payment thereof.
- For the purposes of this by-law "registration year" shall mean the period from April 1 to March 31 in any successive years.
4. The tax shall be annual as follows:
 - 1) For each neutered male or spayed female dog, the annual tax shall be \$10.00;

Proof of neutered male or spayed female dog shall be provided prior to paying the fee for such dog.

- 2) For each un-neutered male or female dog not spayed, the annual tax shall be \$20.00
5. The owner of a kennel of purebred dogs which is registered in the Canada Kennel Register shall, in any year, pay to the Treasurer of the Town Ten Dollars (\$10.00) as a tax upon the kennel for that year, and upon the production of the Treasurer's certificate of payment, the owner of such kennel shall be exempt from assessment and any further tax in respect of such dogs for that year.
6. The Clerk shall keep a record of every dog registered, showing the date and number of registration, and the name and description of the dog with the name and address of the owner. The owner shall furnish this information to the Clerk at or before the time of registration.
7. The Clerk shall supply the owner with a metal tag for each dog registered with the number and year of registration stamped thereon, and the owner of every registered dog shall keep on such dog a collar with the tag attached thereto.
8. If an owner files with the Clerk a Statutory Declaration that a tag has been lost, the Clerk may replace the tag that has been lost upon payment by the owner of One Dollar (\$1.00).
9. Any owner within the town who sells or transfers any dog shall report to the Clerk the sale or transfer, the name and address to whom it was sold or transferred, a description of the dog and the number of registration as shown on the tag issued by the Clerk.
10. The Clerk shall transfer the registration of such dog to the new owner thereof on payment of the amount by which the tax on the new dog to the new owner would exceed any tax paid on the dog that year by the previous owner, or in any other case, without charge.
11.
 - 1) No dog shall be permitted to leave the premises of the owner, or be at large within the town, unless the said dog is under the effective restraint or control of some person in charge thereof, and the fact that any dog is running at large shall be an offence against this by-law.
 - 2) The owner of any dog, other than a dog that is trained to assist or is assisting a person with a disability, shall remove the dog's faeces from public property and private property other than the owners.
12. The owner of a dog,

- 1) which runs at large contrary to this by-law, or
- 2) in respect of which the tax imposed by this by-law is not paid, or
- 3) which is fierce or dangerous, or
- 4) which, without provocation, has attached or injured any person or property, or
- 5) which persistently disturbs the quiet of the neighbourhood by howling, barking or in any other manner

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is guilty of an offence against this by-law, and is subject, on conviction, to the penalty described in Section 24.

13.

- 1) The Dog Control Officer, without notice to or complaint against the owner of any such dog, may impound and kill, or kill on sight without impounding any dog which is fierce or dangerous.
- 2) The Dog Control Officer, without notice to or complaint against the owner of any such dog, may impound any dog,
 - a) found running at large contrary to this by-law
 - b) in respect of which the tax imposed by this by-law has not been paid; or
 - c) which is fierce or dangerous.
 - d) which persistently disturbs the quiet of the neighbourhood by howling, barking or in any other manner.
- 3) It shall be the duty of a Dog Control Officer of the town to take and impound at the pound provided by the Council for such purpose, any dog found at large within the town, and it shall be the duty of the pound keeper to receive and impound such dog and to furnish it with food and water.
- 4) Any dog rabid, or at large and known to be rabid, shall be immediately killed.

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Oct.23/95

14. The Council should appoint a pound keeper who shall keep all dogs delivered to him and furnish him with food and water.

15.

- 1) If, at the expiration of 72 hours following the impounding of any dog, no claim of ownership for such dog is made, it shall be the duty of the pound keeper to make all reason-

able efforts to notify the owner of such dog, and if unable to notify the owner, the pound keeper shall dispose of the dog, with by selling it for the best price obtainable or, if the dog cannot be sold, by destroying it in a humane manner.

- 2) On any dog being impounded, the pound keeper shall forthwith prepare a notice in the following form:

DOG NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE that a dog (giving a short description) has been this day impounded at the Dog Pound (describe name of pound and address) in the town of Bridgewater, and unless such dog is claimed by the owner on or before the day of A.D. 19 , at o'clock in the and registered according to law, the said dog may be sold or euthanised if no sale can be made of the same.

DATED at the Town of Bridgewater this day of A.D., 19 .

- 3) The aforesaid notice shall be posted at least in the Town Hall, a copy forwarded to the owner, as well as being posted on the owner's premises, if known, not less than 48 hours before the time affixed by said notice.
16. The proceeds of any sale after deducting the fees of the pound keeper shall be paid over to the Clerk.
17. If the owner appears and claims his dog before the time fixed by the pound keeper, the dog shall be delivered to him on payment of any tax required by this by-law, on payment of the fees set out in Section 18.
18. A person or owner claiming an impounded dog shall be liable to pay the following:
 - 1) for impounding a dog, the sum of Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00).
 - 2) for room and board, Four Dollars and Seventy-five Cents (\$4.75) per day, or any part of a day; but a person purchasing an unclaimed dog shall not be required to pay these fees.
19. The Clerk shall immediately notify every person reported to him as the owner of an unregistered dog in the town by letter, by ordinary mail, postage paid and addressed to the owner's address, requesting such owner forthwith to register the dog and to comply with this by-law.

20. The Clerk shall keep a record of every dog and its owner so reported to him together with a description of the dog, if available, and the name of the reporting person.
21. The owner of any dog may be required by the Clerk to deliver to the Clerk, in writing, a statement of the number of dogs owned or harboured by him or which are habitually kept upon the premises and, for neglect or refusal to do so, he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding Twenty Dollars (\$20.00).
22. Every owner who neglects to obtain a tag for each dog owned by him and keep it securely fixed on his dog, excepting while the dog is being lawfully used for hunting purposes, or who uses a tag upon a dog other than that which it was issued, shall be liable for a penalty not exceeding Ten Dollars (\$10.00).
23. Every owner of a dog shall pay to the Town a fee of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) for each dog destroyed by the Town at the request of the owner.
24. Any person who violates any provision of this by-law, except as otherwise set out herein, shall be liable to a fine of not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), or not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), and in default of payment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding thirty (30) days.
25. All former by-laws of the Town heretofore enacted relating to Dogs are hereby repealed.

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