

CITY OF ST. CLAIR
ORDINANCE CODE
CHAPTER 91: ANIMALS

SECTION

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SECTION 91.01 DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

- A. **ANIMAL.** Any mammal, reptile, amphibian, fish, bird (including all fowl and poultry) or other member commonly accepted as a part of the animal kingdom. Animals shall be classified as follows:
 - 1. **DOMESTIC ANIMALS.** Those animals commonly accepted as domesticated household pets. Unless otherwise defined, domestic animals shall include dogs, cats, caged birds, gerbils, hamsters, guinea pigs, domesticated rabbits, fish, non-poisonous, non-venomous and non-constricting reptiles or amphibians, and other similar animals. For the purposes of this ordinance chickens and ducks shall be considered domestic animals and thus allowed within the City expressly due to the large number of 4-H participants in the area.
 - 2. **FARM ANIMALS.** Those animals commonly associated with a farm or performing work in an agricultural setting. Unless otherwise defined, farm animals shall include members of the

equine family (horses, mules), bovine family (cows, bulls), sheep, turkeys, swine (including Vietnamese pot-bellied pigs), goats, bees, and other animals associated with a farm, ranch, or stable.

- B. *LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER*. An officer of the Blue Earth County Sheriff's Dept.
- C. *NON-DOMESTIC ANIMALS*. Those animals commonly considered to be naturally wild and not naturally trained or domesticated, or which are commonly considered to be inherently dangerous to the health, safety, and welfare of people. Unless otherwise defined, non-domestic animals shall include:
 - 1. Any member of the large cat family (family felidae) including lions, tigers, cougars, bobcats, leopards and jaguars, but excluding commonly accepted domesticated house cats.
 - 2. Any naturally wild member of the canine family (family canidae) including wolves, foxes, coyotes, dingoes, and jackals, but excluding commonly accepted domesticated dogs.
 - 3. Any crossbreeds such as the crossbreed between a wolf and a dog, unless the crossbreed is commonly accepted as a domesticated house pet.
 - 4. Any member or relative of the rodent family including any skunk (whether or not descended), raccoon, squirrel, or ferret, but excluding those members otherwise defined or commonly accepted as domesticated pets.
 - 5. Any poisonous, venomous, constricting, or inherently dangerous member of the reptile or amphibian families including rattlesnakes, boa constrictors, pit vipers, crocodiles and alligators.
 - 6. Any other animal which is not explicitly listed above but which can be reasonably defined by the terms of this section, including but not limited to bears, deer, monkeys and game fish.
- D. *AT LARGE*. Off the premises of the owner and not under the custody and control of the owner or other person, either by leash, cord, chain, or otherwise restrained or confined.
- E. *CAT*. Both the male and female of the felidae species commonly accepted as domesticated household pets.
- F. *DOG*. Both the male and female of the canine species, commonly accepted as domesticated household pets, and other domesticated animals of a dog kind.
- G. *OWNER*. Any person or persons, firm, association or corporation owning, keeping, or harboring an animal.

SECTION 91.02 DOGS AND CATS.

- A. *Running at large prohibited.* It shall be unlawful for the dog or cat of any person who owns, harbors, or keeps a dog or cat, to run at large. A person, who owns, harbors, or keeps a dog or cat, which runs at large shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Dogs or cats on a leash and accompanied by a responsible person or accompanied by and under the control and direction of a responsible person, so as to be effectively restrained by command as by leash, shall be permitted in streets or on public land unless the City has posted an area with signs reading Dogs or Cats Prohibited.
- B. *License required.*
1. All dogs over the age of six months kept, harbored, or maintained by their owners in the City, shall be licensed and registered with the City. Dog licenses shall be issued by the City Clerk upon payment of the license fee. The owner shall state, at the time application is made for the license and upon forms provided, his or her name and address and the name, breed, color, and sex of each dog owned or kept by him or her. No license shall be granted for a dog that has not been vaccinated against distemper and rabies, as evidenced by a certificate by a veterinarian qualified to practice in the state in which the dog is vaccinated.
 2. It shall be the duty of each owner of a dog subject to this section to pay to the City Clerk the pet license fee.
 3. Upon payment of the license fee, the City Clerk shall issue to the owner a license certificate and metallic tag for each dog licensed. The tag shall have stamped on it "St. Clair" and the number corresponding with the number on the certificate. Every owner shall be required to provide each dog with a collar to which the license tag must be affixed, and shall see that the collar and tag are constantly worn. In case a dog tag is lost or destroyed, a duplicate shall be issued by the City Clerk. Dog tags shall not be transferable from one dog to another and no refunds shall be made on any dog license fee or tag because of death of a dog or the owner's leaving the City before the expiration of the license period.
 4. The licensing provisions of this section shall not apply to dogs whose owners are nonresidents temporarily within the City, or to dogs brought into the City for the purpose of participating in any dog show. If the animal owned is a trained service animal and the owner is a person with physical or sensory disabilities, then no license shall be required.
 5. The funds received by the City Clerk from all dog licenses and metallic tags fees, shall first be used to defray any costs incidental to the enforcement of this chapter; including, but not restricted to, the costs of licenses, metallic tags, and impounding and maintenance of the dogs.
 6. Pet licenses shall be renewed annually.

7. *Cats.* Cats shall be included as controlled by this division insofar as running-at-large, pickup, impounding, boarding, licensing and proof of anti-rabies vaccine is concerned. All other provisions of this section shall also apply to cats unless otherwise provided.

C. *Vaccination.*

1. All dogs and cats kept harbored, maintained, or transported within the City shall be vaccinated at least once every three years by a licensed veterinarian for:
 - a. Rabies - with a live modified vaccine; and
 - b. Distemper.
2. A certificate of vaccination must be kept on which is stated the date of vaccination, owner's name and address, the animal's name (if applicable), sex, description and weight, the type of vaccine, and the veterinarian's signature. Upon demand made by a law enforcement officer or other representative of the City, the owner shall present for examination the required certificate(s) of vaccination for the animal(s). In cases where certificates are not presented, the owner or keeper of the animal(s) shall have seven days in which to present the certificate(s) to the City Clerk or officer. Failure to do so shall be deemed a violation of this section.

SECTION 91.03 NON-DOMESTIC ANIMALS.

It shall be illegal for any person to own, possess, harbor, or offer for sale, any non-domestic animal within the City. Any owner of a non-domestic animal at the time of adoption of this Code shall have 30 days in which to remove the animal from the City after which time the City may impound the animal as provided for in this section. An exception shall be made to this prohibition for animals specifically trained for and actually providing assistance to the handicapped or disabled, and for those animals brought into the City as part of an operating zoo, veterinarian clinic, scientific research laboratory, or a licensed show or exhibition.

SECTION 91.04 FARM ANIMALS.

Farm animals shall only be kept in an agricultural district of the City, or on a residential lot of at least ten acres in size provided that no animal shelter shall be within 300 feet of an adjoining piece of property. An exception shall be made to this section for those animals brought into the City as part of an operating zoo, veterinarian clinic, scientific research laboratory, or a licensed show or exhibition.

SECTION 91.05 IMPOUNDING.

- A. *Running at large.* Any unlicensed animal running at large is hereby declared a public nuisance. The City Clerk, Public Works Dept. or law enforcement officer may impound any dog or other

animal found unlicensed or any animal found running at large and shall give notice of the impounding to the owner of the dog or other animal, if known. A law enforcement officer or other representative of the City shall not enter the property of the owner of an animal found running at large or the owner of an unlicensed animal unless the officer has first obtained the permission of the owner to do so or has obtained a warrant issued by a court of competent jurisdiction, to search for and seize the animal. In case the owner is unknown, the officer shall post notice at the City office that if the dog or other animal is not claimed within the time specified in division (C) of this section, it will be sold or otherwise disposed of. Except as otherwise provided in this section, it shall be unlawful to kill, destroy, or otherwise cause injury to any animal, including dogs and cats running at large.

- B. *Biting animals.* Any animal that has not been inoculated by a live modified rabies vaccine and which has bitten any person, wherein the skin has been punctured or the services of a doctor are required, shall be confined in a pound designated by the City Council for a period of not less than ten days, at the expense of the owner. The animal may be released at the end of the time if healthy and free from symptoms of rabies, and by the payment of all costs by the owner. However, if the owner of the animal shall elect immediately upon receipt of notice of need for the confinement by the officer to voluntarily and immediately confine the animal for the required period of time in a veterinary hospital of the owner's choosing, not outside of the county in which this City is located, and provide immediate proof of confinement in the manner as may be required, the owner may do so. If, however, the animal has been inoculated with a live modified rabies vaccine and the owner has proof of the vaccination by a certificate from a licensed veterinarian, the owner may confine the dog or other animal to the owner's property.
- C. *Reclaiming.* All animals conveyed to the pound shall be kept, with humane treatment and sufficient food and water for their comfort, at least five regular business days, unless the animal is a dangerous animal as defined under SECTION 91.11 in which case it shall be kept for seven regular business days or the times specified in SECTION 91.11, and except if the animal is a cruelly-treated animal in which case it shall be kept for ten regular business days, unless sooner reclaimed by their owners or keepers as provided by this section. In case the owner or keeper shall desire to reclaim the animal from the pound, the following shall be required:
1. Payment of maintenance costs, as provided by the pound, per day or any part of day while animal is in the pound;
 2. If a dog is unlicensed, payment of a regular animal license fee (as established by the Resolution Setting Fees, Rates and Compensations) and a valid certificate of vaccination for rabies and distemper shots shall be required. In addition to payment of the regular animal license fee, an unlicensed animal fine shall be charged for owning, keeping or harboring an unlicensed animal in the City of St. Clair. The unlicensed animal fine shall be double the regular animal license fee.
- D. *Unclaimed animals.* At the expiration of the times established in division (C) of this section, if the animal has not been reclaimed in accordance with the provisions of this section, the impounding staff may let any person claim the animal by complying with all provisions in this section, or they may sell the animal to the University of Minnesota, or cause the animal to be

destroyed in a proper and humane manner and shall properly dispose of the remains thereof. Any money collected under this section shall be payable to the City of St. Clair.

SECTION 91.06 KENNELS.

- A. *Definition of kennel.* The keeping of three or more dogs on the same premises, whether owned by the same person or not and for whatever purpose kept, shall constitute a kennel; except that a fresh litter of pups may be kept for a period of three months before that keeping shall be deemed to be a kennel.
- B. *Kennel as a nuisance.* Because the keeping of three or more dogs on the same premises is subject to great abuse, causing discomfort to persons in the area by way of smell, noise, hazard, and general aesthetic depreciation, the keeping of three or more dogs on the premises is hereby declared to be a nuisance and no person shall keep or maintain a kennel within the City.

SECTION 91.07 NUISANCES.

- A. *Habitual barking.* It shall be unlawful for any person to keep or harbor a dog which habitually barks, howls, cries or yelps. Habitual barking shall be defined as barking for repeated intervals of at least three (3) minutes with less than one minute of interruption. The barking must also be audible off of the owner's or caretaker's premises. Repeated barking due to intentional provocation by an individual residing off the property of the owner is not considered habitual barking for the purposes of this Chapter, nor is barking related to a periodic external stimulus such as a non-domestic animal, machinery or unusual activity within the vicinity of the premises.
- B. *Damage to property.* It shall be unlawful for any person's dog or other animal to damage any lawn, garden, or other property, whether or not the owner has knowledge of the damage.
- C. *Cleaning up litter.* The owner of any animal or person having the custody or control of any animal shall be responsible for cleaning up any feces of the animal and disposing of the feces in a sanitary manner whether on their own property, on the property of others or on public property.
- D. *Warrant required.* A law enforcement officer or other representative of the City shall not enter the property of the owner of an animal described in this section unless the officer has first obtained the permission of the owner to do so or has obtained a warrant issued by a court of competent jurisdiction to search for and seize the animal.
- E. *Other.* Any animals kept contrary to this section are subject to impoundment as provided in SECTION 91.05.

SECTION 91.08 SEIZURE OF ANIMALS.

Any law enforcement officer or representative of the City may enter upon private property and seize any animal with the permission of the owner of the property, if that person is also the owner of the animal, provided that the following exist:

- A. There is an identified complainant other than the City Clerk, Public Works Dept. or law enforcement officer making a contemporaneous complaint about the animal;
- B. The officer reasonably believes that the animal meets either the barking dog criteria set out in SECTION 91.07(A); the criteria for cruelty set out in SECTION 91.13; or the criteria for an at large animal set out in SECTION 91.01(D);
- C. The officer can demonstrate that there has been at least one previous complaint of a barking dog; inhumane treatment of the animal; or that the animal was at large at this address on a prior date;
- D. The officer has made a reasonable attempt to contact the owner of the animal and the property to be entered and those attempts have either failed or have been ignored;
- E. Law enforcement officer or other representative of the City shall not enter the property of the owner of an animal described in this section unless the officer has first obtained the permission of the owner to do so or has obtained a warrant issued by a court of competent jurisdiction, to search for and seize the animal. If the officer has the permission of the owner, a property manager, landlord, innkeeper, or other authorized person to enter the property or has obtained a pass key from a property manager, landlord, innkeeper, or other authorized person to have that key shall not be considered unauthorized entry, and a warrant to search for and seize the animal need not be obtained; and
- F. Written notice of the seizure is left in a conspicuous place if personal contact with the owner of the animal is not possible.

SECTION 91.09 ANIMALS PRESENTING A DANGER TO HEALTH AND SAFETY OF CITY.

If, in the reasonable belief of the law enforcement officer or other representative of the City, an animal presents an immediate danger to the health and safety of any person, or the animal is threatening imminent harm to any person, or the animal is in the process of attacking any person, the person or officer may destroy the animal in a proper and humane manner whether or not the animal is on the property of its owner. Otherwise, the person or officer may apprehend the animal and deliver it to the pound for confinement under SECTION 91.05. If the animal is destroyed, the owner or keeper of the animal destroyed shall be liable to the City for the cost of maintaining and disposing of the animal, plus the costs of any veterinarian examination. If the animal is found not to be a danger to the health and safety of the City, it may be released to the owner or keeper in accordance with SECTION 91.05(C).

SECTION 91.10 DISEASED ANIMALS.

- A. *Running at large.* No person shall keep or allow to be kept on his or her premises, or on premises occupied by them, nor permit to run at large in the City, any animal which is diseased so as to be a danger to the health and safety of the City, even though the animal be properly licensed under this section, and a warrant to search for and seize the animal is not required.
- B. *Confinement.* Any animal reasonably suspected of being diseased and presenting a threat to the health and safety of the public, may be apprehended and confined in the pound by any person, law enforcement officer or representative of the City. The officer shall have a qualified veterinarian examine the animal. If the animal is found to be diseased in a manner so as to be a danger to the health and safety of the City, the officer shall cause the animal to be painlessly killed and shall properly dispose of the remains. The owner or keeper of the animal killed under this section shall be liable to the City for the cost of maintaining and disposing of the animal, plus the costs of any veterinarian examinations.
- C. *Release.* If the animal, upon examination, is not found to be diseased the animal shall be released to the owner or keeper free of charge.

SECTION 91.11 DANGEROUS ANIMALS.

- A. *Attack by an animal.* It shall be unlawful for any person's animal to inflict or attempt to inflict bodily injury to any person or other animal whether or not the owner is present. This section shall not apply to an attack by a dog under the control of an on-duty law enforcement officer or to an attack upon an uninvited intruder who has entered the owner's home with criminal intent.
- B. *Destruction of dangerous animal.* A law enforcement officer or other representative of the City shall have the authority to order the destruction of dangerous animals in accordance with the terms established by this chapter.
- C. *Definitions.* For the purpose of this division, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.
 - 1. *DANGEROUS ANIMAL.* An animal which has:
 - a. Caused bodily injury or disfigurement to any person on public or private property;
 - b. Engaged in any attack on any person under circumstances which would indicate danger to personal safety;
 - c. Exhibited unusually aggressive behavior, such as an attack on another animal;
 - d. Bitten one or more persons on two or more occasions; or

- e. Been found to be potentially dangerous and/or the owner has personal knowledge of the same; the animal aggressively bites, attacks, or endangers the safety of humans or domestic animals.
2. *POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS ANIMAL.* An animal which has:
- a. Bitten a human or a domestic animal on public or private property;
 - b. When unprovoked, chased or approached a person upon the streets, sidewalks, or any public property in an apparent attitude of attack; or
 - c. Has engaged in unprovoked attacks causing injury or otherwise threatening the safety of humans or domestic animals.
3. *PROPER ENCLOSURE.* Securely confined indoors or in a securely locked pen or structure suitable to prevent the animal from escaping and to provide protection for the animal from the elements. A proper enclosure does not include a porch, patio, or any part of a house, garage, or other structure that would allow the animal to exit of its own volition, or any house or structure in which windows are open or in which door or window screens are the only barriers which prevent the animal from exiting. The enclosure shall not allow the egress of the animal in any manner without human assistance. A pen or kennel shall meet the following minimum specifications:
- a. Have a minimum overall floor size of 32 square feet.
 - b. Sidewalls shall have a minimum height of five feet and be constructed of 11-gauge or heavier wire. Openings in the wire shall not exceed two inches, support posts shall be 13-inch or larger steel pipe buried in the ground 18 inches or more. When a concrete floor is not provided, the sidewalls shall be buried a minimum of 18 inches in the ground.
 - c. A cover over the entire pen or kennel shall be provided. The cover shall be constructed of the same gauge wire or heavier as the sidewalls and shall also have no openings in the wire greater than two inches.
 - d. An entrance/exit gate shall be provided and be constructed of the same material as the sidewalls and shall also have no openings in the wire greater than two inches. The gate shall be equipped with a device capable of being locked and shall be locked at all times when the animal is in the pen or kennel.
2. *UNPROVOKED.* The condition in which the animal is not purposely excited, stimulated, agitated or disturbed.
- F. *Designation as potentially dangerous animal.* A law enforcement officer or other representative of the City shall designate any animal as a potentially dangerous animal upon receiving evidence that the potentially dangerous animal has, when unprovoked, then bitten, attacked, or

threatened the safety of a person or a domestic animal as stated in division (C)(2). When an animal is declared potentially dangerous, the City Clerk shall cause one owner of the potentially dangerous animal to be notified in writing that the animal is potentially dangerous.

G. *Evidence justifying designation.* A law enforcement officer or other representative of the City shall have the authority to designate any animal as a dangerous animal upon receiving evidence of the following:

1. That the animal has, when unprovoked, bitten, attacked, or threatened the safety of a person or domestic animal as stated in division (C)(1).
2. That the animal has been declared potentially dangerous and the animal has then bitten, attacked, or threatened the safety of a person or domestic animal as stated in division (C)(1).

H. *Authority to order destruction.* A law enforcement officer, upon finding that an animal is dangerous hereunder, is authorized to order, as part of the disposition of the case, that the animal be destroyed based on a written order containing one or more of the following findings of fact:

1. The animal is dangerous as demonstrated by a vicious attack, an unprovoked attack, an attack without warning or multiple attacks; or
2. The owner of the animal has demonstrated an inability or unwillingness to control the animal in order to prevent injury to persons or other animals.

G. *Procedure.* After an animal has been determined to be dangerous, the City Clerk may proceed in the following manner: cause one owner of the animal to be notified in writing or in person that the animal is dangerous and may order the animal seized or make orders as deemed proper. This owner shall be notified as to dates, times, places and parties bitten, and shall be given 14 days to appeal this order by requesting a hearing before the City Council for a review of this determination.

1. If no appeal is filed, a law enforcement officer or the City Clerk shall obtain an order or warrant authorizing the seizure and the destruction of the animal from a court of competent jurisdiction, unless the animal is already in custody or the owner consents to the seizure and destruction of the animal.
2. If an owner requests a hearing for determination as to the dangerous nature of the animal, the hearing shall be held before the City Council, which shall set a date for hearing not more than three weeks after demand for the hearing. The records of the City Clerk's office shall be admissible for consideration without further foundation. After considering all evidence pertaining to the temperament of the animal, the City Council shall make an order as it deems proper. If the animal is ordered into custody for destruction, the owner shall immediately make the animal available. If the owner does not immediately make the animal available, the City Clerk shall contact law enforcement officials to obtain an order or

warrant authorizing the seizure and the destruction of the animal from a court of competent jurisdiction.

3. No person shall harbor an animal after it has been found by to be dangerous and ordered into custody for destruction.
- H. *Stopping an attack.* If a law enforcement officer or other representative of the City is witness to an attack by an animal upon a person or another animal, the officer may take whatever means the officer deems appropriate to bring the attack to an end and prevent further injury to the victim.
- I. *Notification of new address.* The owner of an animal which has been identified as dangerous or potentially dangerous shall notify the City Clerk in writing if the animal is to be relocated from its current address or given or sold to another person. The notification shall be given in writing at least 14 days prior to the relocation or transfer of ownership. The notification shall include the current owner's name and address, the relocation address, and the name of the new owner, if any.

SECTION 91.12 DANGEROUS ANIMAL REQUIREMENTS.

- A. *Requirements.* If the City Council does not order the destruction of an animal that has been declared dangerous, the City Council may, as an alternative, order any or all of the following:
1. That the owner provide and maintain a proper enclosure for the dangerous animal as specified in SECTION 91.11(C)(3);
 2. Post the front and the rear of the premises with clearly visible warning signs, including a warning symbol to inform children, that there is a dangerous animal on the;
 3. Provide and show proof annually of public liability insurance in the minimum amount of \$300,000;
 4. If the animal is a dog and is outside the proper enclosure, the dog must be muzzled and restrained by a substantial chain or leash (not to exceed six feet in length) and under the physical restraint of a person 16 years of age or older. The muzzle must be of a design as to prevent the dog from biting any person or animal, but will not cause injury to the dog or interfere with its vision or respiration;
 5. If the animal is a dog, it must have an easily identifiable, standardized tag identifying the dog as dangerous affixed to its collar at all times as specified in M.S. SECTION 347.51 as it may be amended from time to time, and shall have a microchip implant as provided by M.S. SECTION 347.151, as it may be amended from time to time;

6. All animals deemed dangerous shall be registered with the county in which this City is located within 14 days after the date the animal was so deemed and provide satisfactory proof thereof to the City Clerk.
 7. If the animal is a dog, the dog must be licensed and up to date on rabies vaccination. If the animal is a cat or ferret, it must be up to date with rabies vaccination.
- B. *Seizure.* As authorized by M.S. SECTION 347.54, as it may be amended from time to time, a law enforcement officer or other representative of the City shall immediately seize any dangerous animal if the owner does not meet each of the above requirements within 14 days after the date notice is sent to the owner that the animal is dangerous. Seizure may be appealed to district court by serving a summons and petition upon the City and filing it with the district court.
- C. *Reclaiming animals.* A dangerous animal seized under SECTION 91.12(B), may be reclaimed by the owner of the animal upon payment of impounding and boarding fees and presenting proof to animal control that each of the requirements under SECTION 91.12(B), is fulfilled. An animal not reclaimed under this section within 14 days may be disposed of as provided under SECTION 91.11(F), and the owner is liable to the City for costs incurred in confining and impounding the animal.
- D. *Subsequent offenses.* If an owner of an animal has subsequently violated the provisions under SECTION 91.11 with the same animal, the animal must be seized by animal control. The owner may request a hearing as defined in SECTION 91.11(F). If the owner is found to have violated the provisions for which the animal was seized, a law enforcement officer or other representative of the City shall order the animal destroyed in a proper and humane manner and the owner shall pay the costs of confining the animal. If the person is found not to have violated the provisions for which the animal was seized, the owner may reclaim the animal under the provisions of SECTION 91.12(C). If the animal is not yet reclaimed by the owner within 14 days after the date the owner is notified that the animal may be reclaimed, the animal may be disposed of as provided under SECTION 91.11(F) and the owner is liable to the animal control for the costs incurred in confining, impounding and disposing of the animal.

SECTION 91.13 BASIC CARE.

All animals shall receive from their owners or keepers kind treatment, housing in the winter, and sufficient food and water for their comfort. Any person not treating their pet in a humane manner will be subject to the penalties provided in this section.

SECTION 91.14 BREEDING MORATORIUM.

Every female dog or female cat in heat shall be confined in a building or other enclosure in a manner that it cannot come in contact with another dog or cat except for planned breeding. Upon capture and failure to reclaim the animal, every dog or cat shall be neutered or spayed prior to being transferred to a new owner.

SECTION 91.15 ENFORCING OFFICER.

The Council is hereby authorized to appoint an Animal Control Officers. The City Clerk and/or Public Works Dept. employees in cooperation with the Blue Earth County Sheriff's Dept. shall serve as the Animal Control Officers and enforce the provisions of this section.

SECTION 91.16 POUND.

Every year the Council shall designate an official pound to which animals found in violation of this chapter shall be taken for safe treatment, and if necessary, for destruction.

SECTION 91.17 INTERFERENCE WITH OFFICERS.

No person shall in any manner molest, hinder, or interfere with any person authorized by the City Council to capture dogs, cats or other animals and convey them to the pound while engaged in that operation. Nor shall any unauthorized person break open the pound, or attempt to do so, or take or attempt to take from any agent any animal taken up by him or her in compliance with this chapter, or in any other manner to interfere with or hinder the officer in the discharge of his or her duties under this chapter.

SECTION 91.18 PENALTY.

- A. *Separate offenses.* Each day a violation of this chapter is committed or permitted to continue shall constitute a separate offense and shall be punishable under this section.
- B. *Misdemeanor.* Unless otherwise provided, violation of this chapter shall constitute a misdemeanor.
- C. *Petty misdemeanor.* Violations this Chapter of the Ordinance Code are petty misdemeanors.

SECTION 91.19 EFFECTIVE DATE

City of St. Clair Ordinance Code, Chapter 91: Animals shall be in full force and effect after its passage and publication as provided by law.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of St. Clair, Minnesota this 1st day of May 2012.

ATTEST:

Douglas Westphal, Mayor

Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer