

Changes and Additions to the Animal Control Ordinance presented to City Council work session on 9/3/19.

Based on considerable additional feedback and input from Hattiesburg citizens the areas highlighted below represent changes or additions to Draft #2 that will appear in Draft #3, as will be presented to City Council for consideration on 9/16-17.

Under Section 2, definitions:

Breed, breeder. A person or entity that owns an animal and facilitates its reproduction for the purpose of selling puppies, kittens, etc. *In home hobby breeders may responsibly breed their personal pets, so long as they insure the health and humane treatment of the dam and offspring.*

Fence.

- A. A fence does not include an “invisible fence” if the fence is:
 - 1. Turned off or the animal is not wearing a properly operating signaling device.
 - 2. Ineffective for any animal that has learned it can cross the fence line.
 - 3. Intended to be a means of keeping people or animals out of an enclosed area.
 - 4. Buried in or adjacent to the city right of way.
- B. An invisible fence is not an acceptable means of control for an animal *that has been deemed as potentially dangerous. Further, if the invisible fence proves to be ineffective, Animal Control reserves the right to require a more effective supplementary enclosure or restraint.*

Service Animal. *Service animals are working animals that have been trained to perform tasks to assist their owners with physical limitations or disabilities.*

Under Section 4-9. Inspection of animals and premises.

Animals and premises whereon animals are kept or maintained shall be subject to inspection by the county health officer or his/her representative or employees, or an animal control official for cause by personal observation or sworn complaint, at any reasonable hour, or at any hour in cases of emergency.

Section 4-12 Appeals.

Any citation or impoundment issued or enacted by Animal Control may be appealed through the Municipal Court processes.

Section 6-5. Animal waste.

- A. *Feces deposited by an animal upon public property or upon the private property of any person other than such animal’s owner shall be collected and removed at once by such animal’s owner. Animal owners are further required to manage animal feces on their own property in a responsible, sanitary manner.*

Section 6-8. Service and Law Enforcement animals

Service animals and law enforcement animals are exempt from any provision herein that would impede their ability to provide the service required from them by their owner.

