

By Niziolek and Zimmermann

Amending Title 4, Chapter 66 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Animals and Fowl: Rabies Control.

The City Council of The City of Minneapolis do ordain as follows:

Section 1. That Chapter 66 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances be amended by adding thereto a new Section 66.25 to read as follows:

66.25. Vaccination of ferrets required. No person shall keep, harbor, or maintain care, custody, or control over any ferret over four (4) months of age unless said ferret has been vaccinated in accordance with the terms of this section. After three (3) months of age and before four (4) months of age the ferret shall be first vaccinated with an approved rabies vaccine. Within twelve (12) months after its original vaccination, the ferret shall receive a booster vaccination with an approved rabies vaccine. Thereafter, the ferret shall receive booster vaccinations every twelve (12) months or according to the prescribed frequency of booster vaccinations in the manufacturer's specifications for the vaccine previously used. All rabies vaccinations shall be performed by or under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian, and the ferret owner shall obtain a certificate of vaccination.

Section 2. That Section 66.30 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

66.30. Defense. It shall be a defense for any person charged with a violation of section 66.10, ~~or~~ 66.20 or 66.25 to show by way of a certificate of vaccination from a veterinarian that the dog, ~~or~~ cat or ferret had been vaccinated for rabies in conformance with the provisions of this chapter on the day prior to the day of the alleged violation.

Section 3. That Section 66.40 (a), (b) and (c) of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

66.40. Impoundment of rabies suspects. (a) Any dog, ~~or~~ cat or ferret not vaccinated in accordance with sections 66.10, ~~and~~ 66.20 and 66.25 which has bitten any person and caused an abrasion or puncture of the skin of such person shall be seized and impounded under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian or at the city ~~contract kennel facility~~ animal care and control center for a period of not less than ten (10) days. If, after a complete examination by a veterinarian, the dog, ~~or~~ cat or ferret has no clinical signs of rabies, it may be released to the owner upon the condition that the owner ~~have~~ has the animal vaccinated and licensed as required by this Code. In the case of a stray, the animal shall be disposed of in accordance with applicable laws. It shall be unlawful for any owner or person having custody or control of any dog, ~~or~~ cat or ferret, not vaccinated in accordance with sections 66.10, ~~and~~ 66.20 and 66.25, which has bitten any person, to refuse to release such dog, ~~or~~ cat, or ferret and make it immediately available to the commissioner of health or the commissioner's agent for the purpose of quarantine.

(b) Any dog, ~~or~~ cat, or ferret vaccinated in accordance with sections 66.10, ~~or~~ 66.20, or 66.25 which has bitten any person shall be confined by the owner or other responsible person in such manner as the commissioner of health may direct and for a period of not less than ten (10) days. The commissioner of health or the commissioner's authorized representative shall conduct a midterm and terminal examination of the animal. If no signs of rabies are observed by the commissioner, the

domestic animal may be released from confinement. It shall be unlawful for any owner or person in custody or control of any vaccinated dog, ~~or~~ cat, or ferret that has bitten any person to refuse or fail to quarantine such dog, ~~or~~ cat, or ferret as required by this subsection. The commissioner of health or the commissioner's agent shall seize any dog, ~~or~~ cat, or ferret not quarantined in accordance with the subsection.

(c) Any other animal which has bitten any person and caused an abrasion or puncture of the skin of such person shall be seized and impounded under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian or at the city ~~contract kennel facility~~ animal care and control center for a period of not less than ten (10) days. If, after a complete examination by a veterinarian, the animal has no clinical sign of rabies, the animal may, with the approval of the commissioner of health, be released to the owner. In the case of an unclaimed animal, it shall be disposed of in accordance with applicable laws. It shall be unlawful for any owner or person in custody or control of any animal which has bitten any person to refuse to release such animal and make it immediately available to the commissioner of health or the commissioner's agent for the purpose of quarantine.