

Animal Control Commission
March 8th, 2022

1. Call to order: Dr. Beyer called the Animal Control Commission meeting to order at 6:46 PM on March 8th, 2022.

2. Roll call: Present- Ashley, Leesa, & Dr. Beyer. Amy was absent.

3. Approve minutes: Minutes from last meeting on February 8th were reviewed. Leesa moved to approve. Ashley seconded. Motion carried.

4. Old Business:

A. Commission Vacancy: Commission vacancy- Ashley introduced Nate Bartz. He is a resident of West Branch. Ashley gave a recommendation that we would nominate Nate to be on the commission. Would need approval from Mayor Laughlin at next council meeting.

B. Animal control ordinance changes: Reviewed things we could do to clarify ordinance to give the office better, clearer guidelines on how to proceed with classification.

Chief Hanna mentioned that we need to clarify "serious injury" more clearly than the state code.

Dr. Beyer mentioned that we would put "serious injury" under definitions. Chief Hannah

mentioned that if we add this wording, more animals would be euthanized as a result of the change. Members discussed the examples that Dr. Beyer laid it out. Dr. Beyer moved on to

55.16. 2. C. Chief Hanna went on to explain the current definition of level 3 in the code says

"aggressively bites". The Commission wanted to add that into the level 4 definition. He went on to add that to definition 55.16 2. D. 1. Commission added "aggressive bites".

Dr. Beyer went on to say that the current offending party has 10 days to appeal but nowhere in

our ordinance had the other party listed to appeal, so it was added into the ordinance that the

offended party has the option to appeal within 10 days of offense. Dr. Beyer asked if there were

any other changes that the committee thought we needed to go through too. Leesa brought up

her concern about the level for ordinance changes and her concerns. Chief Hanna went on to

say vague language should be avoided and it would make police department determinations

easier to have it spelled out to make sure the lines are clean for every situation. Adam Kofoed

thought we should continue to work on wording for level 4 dog bites because he feels we need

to have a more aggressive approach to repeat offenders. Dr. Beyer suggested we table this till

the next meeting. Leesa moved to table. Ashley seconded. Motion carried.

C. Dog park expansion discussion: Dr. Beyer discussed that the Commission talked about it

at the previous meeting. He talked to Mike Dobbs who said it needed to be passed by the board

of Supervisors. Dr. Beyer had a meeting with the board on February 22nd at 9:15 AM. They had

a teleconference, and it was passed. Dr. Beyer suggested we need to make a motion to get this

approved by the city Council. Ashley made a motion. Leesa seconded the motion. Motion

carried. Dr Beyer asked if there was any other discussion. Commission stated no. Dr. Beyer

moved to carry the motion and all voted "aye".

5. New Business:

A. Police Report: Chief Hanna stated there were no new bites.

B. Registration: Chief Hanna explained what is now in place for tracking the registered

animals in West Branch. Also tracking on animals that have been classified per the city

ordinance.

C. Other New Business: None

6. Next meeting: April 12th

7. Adjourn: Dr. Beyer moved to adjourn. Lisa seconded. Motion carried.