

ORDINANCE NO. 832

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 55 – ANIMAL PROTECTION AND CONTROL

BE IT ENACTED by the City Council of the City of West Branch, Iowa:

1. Amendment. Section 55.22, is hereby amended by deleting it in its entirety:

~~55.22 LICENSING.~~

- ~~1. Fees. All fees required herein shall be set by resolution of the City Council.~~
- ~~2. Which Animals Require License. Every owner of a dog or cat over the age of four months shall procure a City animal license each calendar year or within 30 days of the animal being brought into the City.~~
- ~~3. Certification Of Vaccination; Payment Of License Fee; Issuance Of License.~~
 - ~~A. At the time of making application for a City license, the owner shall furnish to the City a veterinarian's certificate showing that the dog or cat for which the license is sought has been vaccinated against rabies virus and that such vaccination will not expire within six months from the date the license is issued. In order to take advantage of the lower rate for neutered animals, the owner shall, at the time application is made for an animal license, present a certificate of neutering signed by a veterinarian containing a description of the animal, its call name and date of neutering, if known. Such certificate may be used in subsequent license applications.~~
 - ~~B. Upon payment of the license fee, the City shall issue to the owner a license which shall contain the name of the owner, the owner's place of residence and a description of the animal. The City shall keep a duplicate of each license issued as a public record. If the animal to be licensed is a guard/attack dog, the owner shall include such fact on the license application.~~
 - ~~C. New animal registrations and renewals can be made in person or online via the City's website providing all required information is provided. City tags will be issued for new pets upon receipt of payment.~~
- ~~4. Animals Too Young for Licensing. The owner of an animal which is no longer with its dam, but which is too young to be licensed, shall be issued a temporary City animal ID tag upon application to the City and payment of the regular fee. Such temporary tag shall automatically expire five months from the date of birth of the animal.~~
- ~~5. License Tag.~~
 - ~~A. Upon issuance of the license, the City shall deliver or mail to the owner a license tag stamped with the following:
 - (1) Year in which issued.
 - (2) Name of issuing City.
 - (3) Number of the license.~~
 - ~~B. City tags will be issued once for the life of the animal. Tags can be issued for up to three years coinciding with the rabies expiration date.~~
 - ~~C. Every animal shall wear the tag provided whenever such animal is off the property of its owner or not within a motor vehicle. Any method may be used to attach the tag to the animal, such as a collar or other suitable device.~~
 - ~~D. It is unlawful for any person who is not the owner or the agent of such owner or an employee of the City or its agent acting in an official capacity to remove a license tag from an animal prior to the expiration of the license.~~
 - ~~E. Upon the filing of an affidavit that the license has been lost or destroyed, the owner may obtain another tag upon payment of a replacement fee. (West Branch Animal Control Study Committee, Page 11)~~
- ~~6. Delinquent Fees. Delinquent license fees, as determined by the City Council, shall be assessed in addition to the annual license fee except in those cases where, by reason of residence outside the corporate limits, age or ownership, the dog or cat was not subject to licensing. In those cases in which an animal becomes subject to the terms of this section during any license year, the license fee shall become due and payable within 30 days after the date that such~~

animal becomes subject to the terms of this chapter. After 30 days, the owner shall pay the delinquent license fee provided by City Council resolution, in addition to the annual license fee.

7. Expiration Date. All licenses expire one year from the date of issuance except in cases where licenses are issued consecutively for two or three years. In those cases, licenses will expire two or three years from the date of issuance.

8. Change Of Ownership; Transfer Of License. When the permanent ownership of an animal is transferred, the new owner shall, within 30 calendar days from the date of change of ownership, make application for a new license as provided in this section regardless of whether or not the animal was previously licensed.

9. Exceptions. The licensing provisions of this chapter shall not be applied to animals whose owners are nonresidents temporarily within the City or animals brought into the City for the purpose of participating in any animal show. Owners of animals which are trained to assist them with their disabilities shall not be charged a fee to license said animals, although said animals are still otherwise subject to the licensing provisions of this chapter.

2. Conflicts. All ordinances or parts of ordinances not specifically provided for and in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

3. Adjudication. If any section, provision or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage, approval and publication as required by law.

Passed and approved on the 20th day of October, 2025.

First Reading: September 15, 2025
Second Reading: October 6, 2025
Third Reading: October 20, 2025


Roger Laughlin, Mayor

ATTEST:


Alycia Kriis, City Clerk

I certify that the foregoing was published as Ordinance No. 832 on the 30th day
of October, 2025.