

CITY OF HACKENSACK

ORDINANCE NO. 51-2023

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 52 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF HACKENSACK, "ANIMALS," TO REQUIRE MULTIPLE DWELLINGS TO MAINTAIN A REGISTRY OF LICENSED DOGS KEPT ON THE PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the City of Hackensack has established comprehensive regulations governing the licensing of dogs along with associated rules for dog owners, which are contained in Chapter 52 of the Code of the City of Hackensack; and,

WHEREAS, the City is concerned that in the event that there is a circumstance where it is necessary for health and safety purposes to promptly identify a dog that is owned, kept or harbored within a multiple dwelling, such as following a dog bite or in the event of a potentially diseased animal, it is not easily able to do so, particularly in larger developments; and,

WHEREAS, the City's health professionals have recommended that legislation be enacted to require multiple dwellings to maintain an easily accessible dog registry so in the event of an emergent circumstance dog owners can be easily identified and contacted by City representatives so that appropriate health and safety action can be taken; and,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council believe that this action is in the best interest of the residents of the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HACKENSACK, as follows:

Section 1:

Section 52-15 of the Code of the City of Hackensack, "Regulations and restrictions," is hereby amended to add a new subsection "H", which shall read as follows (additions by underline):

ARTICLE II Dogs: Licensing and Regulation

§52-15 Regulations and restrictions.

A through G: UNCHANGED

H. For any multiple dwelling within the City of Hackensack containing six (6) dwelling units or more, the owner, managing agent or governing board of the multiple dwelling, as the case may be, shall be responsible for ensuring that any dog owned, kept or harbored by any resident of the multiple dwelling is properly licensed pursuant to this Chapter, and shall maintain a centralized written or electronic registry of all licensed dogs owned, kept or harbored at the multiple dwelling. This registry shall include the name, address and contact information of each resident owning, keeping or harboring a dog on the premises, as well as the name, age and breed of the dog, to the extent known. This registry shall be made available to any sworn officer of the City's Police Department, any Animal Control Officer appointed or designated by the City, or any representative of the City's Health Department upon request no later than one (1) business day of any request to review said registry.

Section 2:

The remainder of Chapter 52 of the Code of the City of Hackensack shall remain unchanged.

Section 3:

Repeal of Inconsistent Provisions. All ordinances or parts thereof in conflict or inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed, but only however, to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency, it being the legislative intent that all ordinances or part of ordinances now existing or in effect unless the same being conflict or inconsistent with any provision of this Ordinance shall remain in effect.

Section 4:

Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable and if any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase thereof for any reason is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, subsections, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Ordinance, but shall remain in effect; it being the legislative intent this Ordinance shall stand notwithstanding the invalidity of any part.

Section 5:

Codification. This Ordinance shall be a part of the Code of the City of Hackensack as though codified and fully set forth therein. The City Clerk shall have this ordinance codified and incorporated in the official copies of the Code. The City Clerk and the City Attorney are authorized and directed to change any Chapter, Article and/or Section number of the Code of the City of Hackensack in the event that the codification of

this Ordinance reveals that there is a conflict between the numbers and the existing Code, and in order to avoid confusion and possible accidental repealers of existing provisions not intended to be repealed.

Section 6:

This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage, adoption, and publication in the manner prescribed by law.

Introduced: December 19, 2023

Adopted: January 23, 2024

ATTEST:

CITY OF HACKENSACK

By: _____
Deborah Karlsson, City Clerk

By: _____
John P. Labrosse, Jr. Mayor