

ARTICLE 16

That the Town amend its General Bylaws, Chapter 116, Article II Animal Control, Section 116-5; Chapter 116, Article II Animal Control, Section 116-12, subsection A, and Chapter 1, Article I Penalties, section 1-2 exactly as printed on pages 38 to 39 of the warrant for this Annual Town Meeting. This article shall take effect starting for the 2023 licensing period.

To see if the Town will vote to amend its General Bylaws, Chapter 116, Article II Animal Control, Section 116-5, subsection F, by replacing the noncriminal disposition penalty amount of \$25 with \$50 and adding “MGL c. 140, § 141”, so that Section 116-5, subsection F reads as follows:

Should any owner or keeper of a dog fail to license their dog before May 31, the owner shall pay a late fee of \$50, in addition to the license fee. In accordance with Chapter 1, Article I, of the General Bylaws of the Town of Sharon, and MGL c. 140, § 141, a noncriminal disposition penalty will be imposed in the amount of \$50 for any owner of a dog who fails to comply with the licensing of their dog on or before June 30 of any year; said fee is to be paid in addition to the late fee and license fee.

AND

To see if the Town will vote to amend its General Bylaws, Chapter 116, Article II Animal Control, Section 116-12, subsection A, by replacing the penalty amounts in (1), (2) and (3) with the amounts delineated in MGL c. 140, § 173a so that subsection A reads as follows:

In addition to the remedies set forth herein, other than as provided in §§ 116-5 and 116-7, this bylaw may be enforced by noncriminal disposition as provided in MGL c. 40, §21D. For the purposes of this bylaw, the Animal Control Officer and all Sharon police officers shall be designated enforcing persons. Each day on which any violation of this bylaw occurs shall be deemed to be a separate offense subject to the following penalties:

- (1) First offense: \$50.
- (2) Second offense: \$100.
- (3) Third offense: \$300.
- (4) Fourth and each subsequent offense: \$500 (and the Town may order the animal spayed or neutered).

AND

To see if the Town will amend the table of fines in Chapter 1, Article I Penalties, section 1-2 Noncriminal disposition of violations by amending the “Amount of Fine” for Chapter 116, Art. II, Animal Control to be consistent with MGL c. 140, § 173a, and by adding a row for “Violation of §116-5” so it reads as follows:

Violation of §116-5: \$50	
Violation of §116-7: \$100	
All other violations:	
	First offense: \$50
	Second offense: \$100
	Third offense: \$300
	Fourth and each subsequent offense: \$500 (and the Town may order the animal spayed or neutered)