



Town of Panton Chartered 1761

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ORDINANCE FOR THE CONTROL OF DOGS

(Adopted April 15, 1989, Amended November 12, 2001 Amended May 8, 2023)

Section 1. Purpose

- A. Pursuant to the authority of Title 20 VSA 3549, the Town of Panton Selectboard hereby enact the following ordinance for the control of dogs within the town of Panton.

Section 2. Restrictions

- A. No person shall allow a dog to run at large in an "uncontrolled manner" within the limits of the Town of Panton. "Uncontrolled manner" shall mean a dog which is not (1) on a leash, (2) on or within a vehicle, (3) on the property of the owner.
- B. All dogs within the town limits of Panton shall be registered and have valid tags attached by a collar indicating such.
- C. All dogs within the town limits of Panton shall have received rabies vaccination prior to registration, and upon registration a certificate from the veterinarian shall be presented to the Town Clerk stating such.
- D. Any dog(s) causing a disturbance such as excessive barking as to the disturb the public peace will be considered a public nuisance, and the owner will be liable for prosecution under the penalties prescribed in this ordinance.
- E. An owner or keeper of any dog, wolf hybrid or pet that defecates on premises other than that of the owner shall be required to remove the fecal matter and dispose of it in an appropriate container. Should the owner or keeper of the animal not retrieve the feces, said owner or keeper shall be fined \$25.00 for the first offense and \$50.00 for each subsequent offense.

Section 3. Enforcement

- A. The Panton Selectboard or Constable shall have overall responsibility to see that the ordinance is enforced.
- B. The Panton Selectboard shall have the authority to appoint a Dog Warden, and such assistance as the Selectboard feels necessary.
- C. The Panton Selectboard or Dog warden and assistant, when appointed, shall be responsible for the enforcement of the ordinance.

Section 4. Impounding Procedure

- A. The Selectboard, Dog Warden and assistant or the Town Constable may impound any dog found in violation of this ordinance at the most accessible pound, and shall also, upon complaint, impound any dogs found in violation of this ordinance at the most accessible pound.
- B. Upon delivery to the pound, the pound will notify the dog's owner if the dog is licensed. The dog shall be held for three (3) days after the owner is notified.
- C. If the dog is unlicensed, the pound will still hold the dog for three (3) days.
- D. If the owner does not claim the dog; the dog shall be given to whoever pays the fees,- the rabies shots, and licensing fees. If no one shall desire the dog, the dog shall be humanely destroyed and the owner, if known, shall pay the fees.

Section 5. Fees

- A. Each person claiming a dog from the pound shall pay to the Town of Pantton the sum of \$50.00 for the first offense, \$100.00 for the second offense and \$200.00 for each offense thereafter. Any dog owner having at least 24 months passed since the last offense shall be assessed fees as having no prior violation under this ordinance. In addition to aforementioned fines, the owner shall also pay all pound keeper's charges before the dog is released.

Section 6. Penalties

- A. under the authority of the Town ordinance for the control of Dogs, any dog owner in violation of Section 2 Restrictions, shall be fined not more than \$100.00 for each offense.

Amended and adopted at the May 8, 2023 Selectboard meeting.



Howard Hall, Chair



Teresa Smith, Selectboard



Zachary Weaver, Selectboard