

Ordinance No. 22- 18

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FINES FOR THE NON-PROPER TETHERING OF ANIMALS; THE CRUEL TREATMENT, COMBAT OF ANIMALS, HARASSMENT; AND THE ABANDONMENT OF ANIMALS

WHEREAS the City of Somerset through its Common Council has the power to define and regulate the public “peace and dignity” within the City of Somerset;

WHEREAS within those powers the Common Council may regulate the treatment of animals.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Common Council of the City of Somerset, Kentucky as follows:

- I. If any animal, including, but not limited to dogs, but excluding fowl, is to be tethered by a chain, cable tie-out, or similar restraint, the tether shall be attached to a properly fitting collar/harness designed to be a holding device. The tether and collar shall be of a weight and material appropriate for the species, breed, condition, and size of the animal; cannot be of a weight which will cause burden to the animal; be no less than 10 feet in length and have swivels on both ends. An owner or keeper shall not wrap a tether directly around an animal's neck, and the tether shall be attached to a fixed immobile point that allows freedom of movement, while withstanding the force necessary to restrain the animal. The area around the tethered animal shall be free of objects which could become tangled in the tether. If an animal is to be kept in an enclosure, the enclosure shall allow for freedom of movement, unless restricted by a veterinarian, and the owner or keeper shall not allow the animal to stand in the animal's feces and/or urine for prolonged periods. The enclosure shall be free of objects or contaminants which

are likely to cause injury to, or be detrimental to the health of, the animal, including, but not limited to, rusty or jagged metal objects, broken glass, or harmful chemicals, solvents, or agents.

- II. No person shall beat, cruelly treat, torment, overload, overwork, or otherwise chase any animal, or cause or permit any fight or other combat between animals. No person shall allow an animal, under his or her direct control by restraint or voice command, to intimidate, harass, or worry another animal which is upon its owner's or keeper's property.
- III. No owner or keeper shall abandon an animal, abandonment consisting of leaving the animal for a period in excess of 24 hours without providing for someone to feed, water, and check on the animal. In the event that an animal is found so abandoned, the animal may be taken by the Animal Control Officer, or any peace officer, and impounded in the Pulaski County Animal Control Shelter. The animal, if taken from private property, shall be kept at the Animal Control Shelter until either relinquished by the owner or keeper, or custody of the animal is determined by judicial process.
- IV. Jurisdiction & Penalties – An allegation of violation shall be made by any law enforcement officer or other person having personal knowledge of the violation by a sworn warrant or affidavit through the Pulaski County Attorney's Office and said resulting misdemeanor complaint shall be prosecuted by the Pulaski County

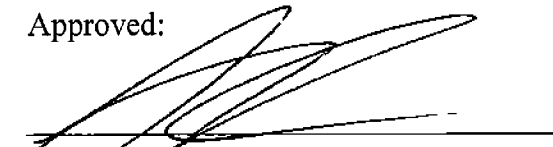
Attorney in Pulaski District Court. The penalties for a violation of Section I or II shall be in addition to any state ordinance violation and shall be a \$100 fine for the first offense, \$250 fine for the second offense and \$500 for the third offense.

V. This Ordinance shall take effect from and upon its passage as approval as required by law.

First Reading: November 14, 2022

Second Reading December 12, 2022

Approved:



Alan L. Keck, Mayor

Attested:



Nick Bradley, City Clerk