ORDINANCE # 2021-03
INTRODUCED BY SMITH
DATE INTRODUCED 2.2.2021
ITEM NUMBER 2021-02-01
PUBLIC HEARING 04-13-2021
ADOPTED/TABLED 04-13-2021
EFFECTIVE 04-20-2021
BOOK # ____ PAGE # ____
RECORDATION # ____
AMENDED BY ORDINANCE # ____
DATE AMENDED ____

ADOPTION

AMENDED
CITY OF COVINGTON
STATE OF LOUISIANA

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2021-03

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON AMENDING THE COVINGTON CODE OF ORDINANCES CHAPTER 14. ANIMALS ARTICLE 1. IN GENERAL SECTION 14-10 PUBLIC NUISANCE

Whereas, the Covington Code of Ordinances Section 14 – 10 regulates nuisance animals; and

Whereas, Covington Code of Ordinances Sec. 14 – 10. currently provides for the investigation of such nuisance animals to be investigated by the St. Tammany Parish Department of Animal Services; and

Whereas, the City of Covington has been advised that the St. Tammany Parish Department of Animal Services does not have the ~~resources to conduct such investigations~~; the authority to write citations within the city limits of Covington; and

Whereas, the City of Covington has had several nuisance animal complaints which need to be adequately investigated and controlled. ~~and~~

~~**WHEREAS,** the Covington City Council deems these amendments appropriate to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Covington; and~~

~~**WHEREAS,** the City Council has held its public hearing in accordance with law.~~

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Covington, at its regular session convened, that the Covington Code of Ordinances Chapter 14. Animals Article 1. In General Sec. 14 – 10 (c). be amended as follows:

CHAPTER 14 ANIMALS

ARTICLE 1. IN GENERAL

Sec. 14-10. Public nuisance.

(a) Every owner or keeper of animals shall exercise proper care and control of such animal so as to prevent them from creating or becoming a public nuisance. Excessive or untimely barking, howling or yelping so as to disturb the peace and quiet of a neighborhood or its residents or to disturb the health or repose of the residents; attacking or molesting passersby or other animals; being repeatedly at large; chasing vehicles; scratching on or digging into or urinating or defecating upon lawns, shrubs, buildings or any property, either public or private, other than property of the owner or keeper of an animal, all shall be deemed to be the creation of a public nuisance and the owner or keeper of an animal causing such public nuisance shall be subject to penalties of section 1-8 of this Code. In the case of nuisance by defecation, the owner or keeper must remove all feces and dispose of them in a sanitary manner or be considered to be further in violation of the provisions of this article.

(b) Premises on which animals, including fowl, are kept shall be maintained so as to prevent disagreeable odors arising there from, or the presence or breeding of flies, mosquitoes and other pest. Provisions shall be made for the removal and disposal of animal food wastes, bedding, dead animals and debris. Disposal facilities shall be so provided and operated as to minimize vermin infestation, odors and disease hazards.

(c) ~~Upon receipt of a written and signed complaint or verbal notification from the Covington Police Department wherein it is alleged that an animal, or group of animals, is a public nuisance, the St. Tammany Parish Department of Animal Services shall investigate the complaint. If the parties refuse to cooperate, the St. Tammany Parish Department of Animal Services has the right to initiate a complaint in a court of proper jurisdiction.~~

(c) Upon receipt of a complaint from any concerned citizen to the City or to the Covington Police Department, wherein it is alleged that an animal, or group of animals, is a public nuisance, the Covington Police Department or the Code Enforcement Officer may investigate the complaint. If the Covington Police Department or the Code Enforcement Officer determines that a public nuisance exists, such matter shall be referred to Covington Mayor's Court as a violation of the Code of Ordinances.

~~(d) In the event revocation of an animal's license or reduction in the number of animals kept is ordered by the St. Tammany Parish Department of Animal Services, the owner shall have 15 days to dispose of the animal or animals unless otherwise specified by the St. Tammany Parish Department of Animal Services. If the owner fails to take such action, then the St. Tammany Parish Department of Animal Services may take custody of the animal or animals.~~

Sec. 14-10 (d) is deleted.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if any provision of this ordinance shall be held to be invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions herein which can be given effect without the invalid provision and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

WHEREUPON, this ordinance having been submitted in writing, having been read by title and adopted at a public meeting of the City Council of the City of Covington, State of Louisiana, was then submitted to an official vote as a whole, the vote thereon being as follows:

MOVED FOR ADOPTION by Botsford, seconded by Roberts.

YEAS: 5 **ABSENT:** 2

NAYS: 0 **ABSTAIN:** 0

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of April, 2021.

RICK SMITH
COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

JOANN D. RUCKER
COUNCIL CLERK

Presented to the Mayor on this 14th day of April, 2021, at 9:30 o'clock A.M.

JOANN D. RUCKER
COUNCIL CLERK

Approved ✓ or Vetoed ___ by the Mayor on this 14th day of April, 2021.

MARK R. JOHNSON
MAYOR

Received from the Mayor on this 14th day of April, 2021, at 1:30 o'clock P.M.

JOANN D. RUCKER
COUNCIL CLERK