

DOG LEASH ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, the Selectmen of the Town of Readsboro have after investigation determined that unconfined dogs running at large in the Town without control have resulted and will result in danger to persons and property of the inhabitants and that measures should be taken to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to authority granted them by Section 3549 of Title 20 Vermont Statutes annotated, the Board of Selectmen of the town of Readsboro hereby ordain and enact as follows:

SEC. 1 The owner or keeper of a dog in the town of Readsboro shall at all times confine the dog within a building or other secure enclosure or securely tied to an exercise wire or similar contrivance, except as herein otherwise provided.

Sec. 2 Such owner or keeper may have his dog outside a building or enclosure or not otherwise confined or restrained as required in Sec. 1, but only when the dog is.

- a) Securely held on a leash;
- b) Within a vehicle preventing escape;
- c) On land owned or occupied by such dog owner or keeper, or, if not on such land, hunting with its owner or keeper;
- d) Clearly subject to the verbal command of such owner or keeper.

Sec. 3 The owner or keeper of a dog may release said dog in the charge of his duly authorized agent, who shall thereupon control the dog in one of the ways provided in Sec. 2.

Sec. 4 A law enforcement officer of the town shall confine a dog found at large in violation of the terms of this ordinance. Such officer shall notify the owner or keeper of said dog, if known, of the location where and the person with whom the dog is confined.

Sec. 5 If a dog so confined is licensed, the officer shall forthwith notify the owner that the dog may be reclaimed within three days upon payment to the town a fee of \$5.00 plus any charge incurred by the town for the impounding of the dog. If within such three days the dog is not claimed, such dog shall be released to anyone who pays the required amount. A dog neither claimed nor released on payment for five days may be sold or otherwise disposed of by the pound keeper as he sees fit.

Sec. 6 If an unlicensed dog is placed in confinement by virtue of this ordinance, it shall be disposed of as required by Chapter 193 of VSA.

Sec. 7 The owner or keeper of a dog (or his duly authorized agent) who allows said dog to be at large in violation of this ordinance shall be fined not less than \$5.00 nor more than \$25.00 for each offense. If such violation continues for more than 24 hours after notice thereof to the offender, he may be charged with a new violation of this ordinance.

Sec. 8 The selectmen shall upon the enactment of this ordinance and at least annually thereafter designate the names of persons and their locations to receive dogs for confinement under the terms of this ordinance.

Sec. 9 The various provisions of this ordinance shall be construed as separable. The invalidity of one provision shall not render invalid the remaining provisions unless the invalid provision is essential to the enforcement hereof.

Sec. 10 This ordinance shall be published once a week for two successive weeks in the North Adams Transcript beginning on May 30, 1974 and shall take effect on June 12, 1974.

Dated at Readsboro, Vermont May 12, 1974

Franklin Lowerre, Jr.
Franklin Lowerre, Jr., Chairman

Hollis V. Yorke
Hollis V. Yorke

Alan Distler
Alan Distler

Selectmen, Town of Readsboro

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WHEREAS, the Selectmen of the Town of Readsboro have after investigation determined that unconfined dogs running at large in the town without control have resulted and will result in danger to persons and property of the inhabitants and that measures should be taken to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to authority granted them by Section 149 of Title 20 Vermont Statutes annotated, the Board of Selectmen of the town of Readsboro hereby ordain and enact as follows:

- SECTION 1. The owner or keeper of a dog in the town of Readsboro shall at all times confine the dog within a building or other secure enclosure or securely tied to an exercise wire or similar contrivance, except as herein otherwise provided.
- Section 2. Such owner or keeper may have his dog outside a building or enclosure or not otherwise confined or restrained as required in Sec. 1, but only when the dog is:
- Securely held on a leash;
 - Within a vehicle preventing escape;
 - On land owned or occupied by such dog owner or keeper, or, if not on such land, hunting with its owner or keeper;
 - Clearly subject to the verbal command of such owner or keeper.
- Section 3. The owner or keeper of a dog may release said dog in the charge of his duly authorized agent, who shall thereupon control the dog in one of the ways provided in Sec. 2.
- Section 4. A law enforcement officer of the town shall confine a dog found at large in violation of the terms of this ordinance. Such officer shall notify the owner or keeper of said dog, if known, of the location where and the person with whom the dog is confined.
- Section 5. If a dog so confined is licensed, the officer shall forthwith notify the owner that the dog may be reclaimed within three days upon payment to the town a fee of \$5.00 plus any charge incurred by the town for the impounding of the dog. If within such three days the dog is not claimed, such dog shall be released to anyone who pays the required amount. A dog neither claimed nor released on payment for five days may be sold or otherwise disposed of by the pound keeper as he sees fit.
- Section 6. If an unlicensed dog is placed in confinement by virtue of this ordinance, it shall be disposed of as required by Chapter 193 of VSA.
- Section 7. The owner or keeper of a dog (or his duly authorized agent) who allows said dog to be at large in violation of this ordinance shall be fined not less than \$5.00 nor more than \$25.00 for each offense. If such violation continues for more than 24 hours after notice thereof to the offender, he may be charged with a new violation of this ordinance.
- Section 8. The selectmen shall upon the enactment of this ordinance and at least annually thereafter designate the names of persons and their locations to receive dogs for confinement under the terms of this ordinance.
- Section 9. The various provisions of this ordinance shall be construed as separable. The invalidity of one provision shall not render invalid the remaining provisions unless the invalid provision is essential to the enforcement hereof.
- Section 10. This ordinance shall be published once a week for two successive weeks in the North Adams Transcript beginning on May 30, 1974 and shall take effect on June 17, 1974.