

Type: CRP Recorded: 11/17/2020 at 10:01:25 AM Fee Amt: \$0.00 Page 1 of 2 Gaston, NC Susan S. Lockridge Register of Deeds BK 5174 PG991-992

RESOLUTION TITLE: TO AMEND THE GASTON COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 3 – ANIMALS, ARTICLE I, SECTION 3-8 - RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTROL ANIMAL -TO CREATE SUBSECTION (C) - GUIDELINES FOR ANIMAL TETHERING (SECOND READING)

- WHEREAS, Chapter 3 of the Gaston County Code of Ordinances concerns Animals; and,
- WHEREAS, there is currently no provision in the Code of Ordinances that deals directly with the tethering of animals; and,
- WHEREAS, Gaston County wishes to modify this subsection to provide guidance for animal owners and County law enforcement as to what constitutes the humane tethering of animals and how animal owners who choose to tether their animals should do so.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby modifies Chapter 3, Article I., Section 3-8 of the Gaston County Code of Ordinances and creates Subsection (c) as follows:
- (c) Tethering an animal is discouraged. If a pet owner chooses to tether an animal, he or she should be aware of the following list of non-exhaustive examples, all of which constitute ways to humanely tether an animal. Complying with these provisions does not in itself absolve an animal owner from being charged with or convicted of some other provision of state law or local ordinance, including but not limited to those relating to animal cruelty or nuisance animals.

Guidelines for Animal Tethering:

- 1. No animal under six (6) months of age should be tethered
- 2. The tether should not weigh more than ten percent (10%) of the weight of the animal. For example, a fifty (50) pound dog should not be tethered to a chain in excess of five (5) pounds, zero ounces
- 3. The tether should be at least ten (10) feet in length
- 4. The tether should not be affixed to a single, stationary point
- 5. The tether should connect by way of a double swivel at the animal's collar and also connect by way of a double swivel to the pulley system
- 6. The pulley system should be at least seven (7) feet in height

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To Amend the Gaston County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 3 – Animals, Article I, Section 3-8 - Responsibility to Control Animal – to Create Subsection (c) - Guidelines for Animal Tethering (Second Reading)

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- 7. The area the tethered animal is located on should not be close to neighboring properties as to constitute a nuisance
- 8. The animal owner should periodically examine the collar and harness to ensure the collar has an appropriate fit and will not cause injury to the animal
- 9. The use of a chain, choke, or pinch collar, as a primary collar, is discouraged
- 10. The tethered animal should be able to freely enter a sheltered area, such as a dog house
- 11. The tethered animal should have access to sufficient food, water, and shade
- 12. There should not be excessive mud, dirt, debris or trash in the area the tethered animal has access to
- 13. The area the tethered animal has access to should be free from obstructions that could result in entanglement
- 14. Female animals in heat should be isolated in a manner where other animals do not have unrestricted breeding access

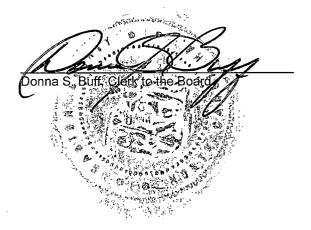
This Ordinance amendment shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted the 10th day of November, 2020.

Tracy L. Philbeck, Chairman Gaston County Board of Commissioners

Certification

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the Gaston County Board of Commissioners, do hereby certify that the above, as filed with the Clerk to the Board, is a true and accurate copy of the ordinance amendment entitled *To Amend the Gaston County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 3 – Animals, Article I, Section 3-8 – Responsibility to Control Animal – to Create Subsection (c) – Guidelines for Animal Tethering (Second Reading)*, as adopted by the Board of Commissioners on November 10, 2020 and to be set forth in the Gaston County Code of Ordinances upon adoption.



SEAL



Gaston County

Gaston County Board of Commissioners www.gastongov.com

County Attorney

Board Action

File #: 20-494

Commissioner Hovis - County Attorney - To Amend the Gaston County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 3 - Animals, Article I, Section 3-8 - Responsibility to Control Animal - to Create Subsection (C) - Guidelines for Animal Tethering (Second Reading)

STAFF CONTACT

Jonathan Sink - County Attorney - 704-866-3400

BUDGET IMPACT

N/A

BUDGET ORDINANCE IMPACT

N/A

BACKGROUND

The attached Resolution would add Animal Tethering Guidelines to the County's Code of Ordinances to aid citizens and Gaston County law enforcement alike in outlining how animal owners who choose to tether their animals should do so.

DATE OF INTRODUCTION (First Reading): 10/27/2020

POLICY IMPACT

Modifies Chapter 3, Article I., Section 3-8 of the Gaston County Code of Ordinances and creates Subsection (c).

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and extrect copy of taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:											
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