An Ordinance providing for the licensing of dogs within the corporate limits of the City of Kent, prohibiting unlicensed dogs, and dogs of fierce, dangerous or vicious propensities, and female dogs in heat from running at large within the corporate limits of the City of Kent; authorizing the impounding and destruction of dogs; providing a penalty; and repealing all ordinances in conflict therewith.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENT:

Section 1. DEFINITION OF TERMS. As used in this ordinance, unless the context otherwise indicates,

(a) "Dog" shall be intended to mean both male and female.

(b) "Owner" shall be intended to mean any person or persons, firm, association or corporation owning, keeping, or harboring a dog.

(c) "At large" shall be intended to mean off the premises of the owner, and not under the control of the owner or a member of his immediate family either by leash, cord, chain or otherwise.

Section 2. LICENSE AND REGISTRATION REQUIRED. Effective January 1, 1957 and thereafter, all dogs over four months of age kept, harbored or maintained by their owners in the City of Kent shall be licensed and registered each year for the calendar year. No pro-rate of the license fee shall be allowed, except that credit shall be given each owner at the time of application hereunder for a pro-rated amount of any dog license fee paid under previous ordinances of the City. Dog licenses shall be issued by the city clerk upon payment of a license tax of $1.00 for each male or spayed female, and $2.00 for each unspayed female. The owner shall state at the time application is made for such license and upon printed forms provided for such purpose his name and address, and the name, breed, color and sex of each dog owned or kept by him. The provisions of this section shall not be intended to apply to dogs whose owners are nonresidents temporarily within the city, nor to dogs brought into the city for the purpose of participating in any dog show, nor to "seeing-eye" dogs properly trained to assist blind persons for the purpose of aiding them in going from place to place, nor to dogs retained in licensed kennels within the City.
Section 3. TAG AND COLLAR. Upon payment of the license fee, the clerk shall issue to the owner a license certificate and a metallic tag for each dog so licensed. The shape of the tag shall be changed every year and shall have stamped thereon the year for which it was issued and the number corresponding with the number on the certificate. Every owner shall be required to provide each dog with a collar to which the license tag must be affixed, and shall see that the collar and tag are constantly worn. In case a dog tag is lost or destroyed, a duplicate will be issued by the clerk upon presentation of a receipt showing the payment of the license fee for the current year, and the payment of a fifty (50) cent fee for such duplicate. No refund shall be made on any dog license fee because of death of the dog or the owner's leaving the city before expiration of the license period.

Section 4. No owner or keeper of any dog shall permit such dog to run at large if unlicensed.

Section 5. IMPOUNDING. It shall be the duty of every police officer or Dog Warden to apprehend any dog found running at large contrary to the provisions of this ordinance and to impound such dog in the city pound or other suitable place. The dog master upon receiving any dog shall make a complete registry, entering the breed, color, and sex of such dog and whether licensed. If licensed he shall enter the name and address of the owner and the number of the license tag. Licensed dogs shall be separated from unlicensed dogs.

Section 6. REDEMPTION OF IMPOUNDED ANIMALS.

(a) The owner shall be entitled to resume possession of any impounded dog, except as hereinafter provided in the cases of certain dogs, upon compliance with the license provisions in Section 2 of this ordinance and the payment of impoundment fees set forth herein.

(b) Any animal impounded under the provisions of this ordinance and not reclaimed by its owner with 5 days, may be
humanely destroyed by the Dog Warden or police officer, such regulations to be fixed by the Dog Warden, or placed in the custody of some person deemed to be a responsible and suitable owner, who will agree to comply with the provisions of this ordinance and such other regulations as shall be fixed by the Dog Warden. Provided, if the animal is one as to which the respective rights of the owner and the person in possession or custody are determined by state law, such law shall be complied with.

Section 7. IMPOUNDMENT FEES. Any animal impounded here-under may be reclaimed as herein provided upon payment by the owner to the Dog Warden of the sum of $3.00 for each dog, and the additional sum of 50 cents for each day such dog is kept after the expiration of the legal detention period; §impoundment fees set forth herein shall be collected for the City of Kent, and such additional sums as herein provided for keeping animals, shall be collected by the Dog Warden and retained by the City of Kent, to help defray the costs of keeping such animals beyond the period set forth herein.

Section 8. CONFINEMENT OF CERTAIN DOGS.

(a) The owner shall confine within a building or secure enclosure, every fierce, dangerous, or vicious dog, and not take such dog out of such building or secure enclosure unless such dog is securely muzzled.

(b) When in the judgment of the Dog Warden, an animal should be destroyed for humane reasons, such animal may not be redeemed.

Section 9. DISPOSITION OF INFECTED DOGS. Any dog which appears to be suffering from rabies or affected with hydrophobia, mange or other infectious or dangerous disease shall not be released but may be forthwith destroyed.

Section 10. CONFINEMENT OF CERTAIN DOGS. No dog of fierce, dangerous or vicious propensities and no female dog in heat, whether licensed or not, shall be allowed to run at large or upon the premises of one other than the owner. If any such dog is found running at large in violation of this provision it shall
be taken up and impounded and shall not be released except upon approval of the Dog Warden after payment of the fees provided in Section 7; provided, however, that if any dangerous, fierce, or vicious dog so found at large cannot be safely taken up and impounded, such dog may be slain by any policeman.

Section 11. MUZZLING. Whenever it becomes necessary to safeguard the public from the dangers of hydrophobia, the Mayor, if he deems it necessary, shall issue a proclamation ordering every person owning or keeping a dog to confine it securely on his premises unless such dog shall have a muzzle of sufficient strength to prevent its biting any person. Any unmuzzled dog running at large during the time of the proclamation shall be seized and impounded, unless noticeably infected with rabies. All dogs so noticeably infected with rabies and displaying vicious propensities shall be killed by the City police or Dog Warden without notice to the owner. Dogs impounded during the first two days of such proclamation shall, if claimed within five days, be released to the owner, unless infected with rabies, upon payment of the impounding charges provided for in Section 7. If unclaimed after that period, such dog may be summarily destroyed.

Section 12. PENALTIES. Any owner found violating any provision of this ordinance shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than $25.00 nor more than $300.00 for such offense.

Section 13. REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES. All existing ordinances of the City of Kent are hereby repealed insofar as they may be inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance.

Section 14. SEPARABILITY OF PROVISIONS. It is the intention of the City Council that each separate provision of this ordinance shall be deemed independent of all other provisions.
herein, and it is further the intention of the City Council that if any provision of this ordinance be declared invalid, all other provisions thereof shall remain valid and enforceable.

Section 15. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect five days from and after its passage, approval and publication.

Attest:

[Signature]

City Clerk

Approved as to form:

[Signature]

City Attorney

Passed: 9-4-1956

Approved: 12-3-1956

Published: 12-6-1956
CITY OR ANCE
No. 931
Licensing of Dogs

Sec. AMENDED
By Ord. 1162

Sec. AMENDED
By Ord. 1164

REPEALED
By Ord. 2005