

NOTICE OF ORDINANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 2nd day of January, 2018, the governing body of the City of Hobbs proposes to adopt an ordinance amending Chapter 6.04.110 of the Hobbs Municipal Code described as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 6.04.110 OF THE HOBBS MUNICIPAL CODE RELATED TO THE RETENTION OF STRAYS OR OWNER SURRENDERED ANIMALS

WHEREAS, Section 6.04.110 of the Hobbs Municipal Code currently discusses the retention of strays or owner surrendered animals; and

WHEREAS, the current Section 6.04.110, did not provide procedures for surrendering an animal to the Hobbs Animal Adoption Center (HAAC); and

WHEREAS, the changes to Section 6.04.110, outlines procedures for surrendering an animal to the HAAC by the owner; and

WHEREAS, the changes to Section 6.04.110, implements a surrender fee to offset the cost associated with intake and vaccination of the animal; and

WHEREAS, the changes to Section 6.04.110, provides an option to owners that may surrender a litter of animals to have the mother of the litter sterilized in lieu of a surrender fee.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF HOBBS, NEW MEXICO, that Section 6.04.110 of the Hobbs Municipal Code is hereby amended as follows:

6.04.110 - Retention of strays or owner-surrendered animals.

- A. No person shall, without the knowledge and consent of the owner, hold or retain possession of any animal for more than twenty-four hours without first reporting the possession of the animal to the Animal Protection Department.
 - 1. The report shall contain the person's name and address, a true and complete statement of the circumstances under which he took up the animal, and the precise location where the animal is confined.
 - 2. No person having such an animal in his possession shall refuse to immediately surrender the animal to an Animal Protection Officer upon demand.
- B. Duly incorporated humane societies or the rescue arms of accredited dog and cat clubs or horse organizations capable of providing proper confinement, shelter, and care for stray, lost or owner-surrendered animals shall be allowed to assume the care of such animals.
 - 1. The owner of a stray animal wearing a rabies tag or other form of identification shall be notified that the animal has been impounded.

2. If the owner is not located within three (3) working days the society may assume responsibility for finding the animal a new home.

C. The owner of an animal may surrender the animal to the City animal protection facilities provided:

1. The owner shall be required to sign an owner relinquishment form; and
2. The owner shall be required to pay a surrender fee to offset the cost associated with intake and vaccination of the animal; or
3. In the event the owner is requesting to surrender an unwanted litter, the owner may surrender the litter, have the mother of the litter sterilized, and pay the sterilization fee in lieu of paying the surrender fee for each animal in the litter.

A copy of the proposed ordinance in its entirety is available to interested persons during regular business hours in the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 200 East Broadway, Hobbs, New Mexico. The ordinance is also available for viewing online at www.hobbsnm.org.

/s/Jan Fletcher
Jan Fletcher, City Clerk