



TOWN OF BELLINGHAM

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

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BOARD MEMBERS

Vincent Forte, Jr.
Patricia Leclair
Kelly McGovern

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2019 SEP 10 PM 2:28
OFFICE OF THE
TOWN CLERK
Administrative Assistant
Laura Renaud
Health Agent
Bruce E. Wilson, Jr.

Domestic Animal Regulations

The Board of Health in the Town of Bellingham, acting under its authority, pursuant to G.L. c. 111, §31, hereby adopts the following regulations for the control and keeping of domestic animals within the Town of Bellingham, for the purposes of protecting the public health, safety and welfare.

Definition of Domestic Animal

An animal of a species of vertebrates that has been domesticated by humans so as to live and breed in a tame condition and depends on humankind for survival. Domesticated animals shall include, but not be limited to any equine or bovine animal, goat, sheep, swine, dog, cat, poultry or other domesticated beast or bird.

General Requirements

Any owner or keeper of more than four (4) domestic animals three (3) months of age or older in the Town shall apply for, and obtain, a Special Permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals in accordance with Sections 240-25 and 240-31 of the Town of Bellingham Zoning Bylaw, in order to operate an animal kennel, as defined under Section 240-32 of the Town of Bellingham Zoning Bylaw.

No owner or keeper of a domestic animal shall allow any domestic animal to run at large within the abutting properties, streets, sidewalks or public ways or lands of the Town or otherwise cause a disturbance or interference with the public health and safety.

All owners and keepers of domestic animals shall make reasonable efforts to fence in or otherwise create barriers surrounding their property in an attempt to minimize the wandering of domestic animals off of the owner's or keeper's private property in order to avoid inference with the health, safety and enjoyment of abutters' properties and the public.

Nothing in this regulation shall supersede the licensing requirements for dogs under General Bylaw, Chapter 55, Dogs.

Waste Management

All waste shall be collected and contained at least twenty (20) feet from any abutting lot line and at least (100) feet from any potable water supply wells, wetlands or year-round surface water bodies. Any outdoor pet waste shall be kept within the property lines to preserve the health and safety of the public

Fines and Penalties

Any person who shall violate of any section contained within these Domestic Animal Regulations shall be assessed according to the following fine structure:

First offense shall result in a written warning from the Health Agent, specifying the timeframe to correct the violation(s), not to exceed fourteen (14) days from receipt of the written warning.

Second offense of the same violation or any other violation within a year of the last offense shall result in a fine of \$100, Plus \$100 for each additional day of non-compliance.

Appeals

Any person aggrieved by an action by the Health Agent under these regulations may request a hearing before the Board of Health by filing a written petition within seven (7) days from receipt of such order of action by the Board of Health Agent.

Inspections

The Animal Inspector, Agent of the Board, or member of the Board of Health shall have the right to make an inspection (with notification) to ensure compliance of these regulations. If a complaint has been filed or if said Animal Inspector, Agent of the Board or member of the Board of Health is required by law to perform an inspection based upon the severity of the complaint, voluntary access shall be requested from the property owner, and if not

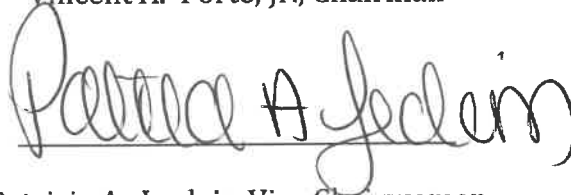
obtained, the Town reserves the right to pursue access through all available legal means, including a court order.

Effective Date

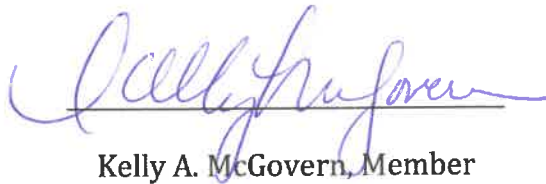
This regulation shall take effect immediately upon publication of notice in local newspaper, unanimous vote of the Board at a public hearing and filing with the Town Clerk's Office.
Effective Date September 5, 2019.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Vincent A. Forte, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Vincent A. Forte, Jr., Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Patricia A. Leclair", written over a horizontal line.

Patricia A. Leclair, Vice Chairwoman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Kelly A. McGovern", written over a horizontal line.

Kelly A. McGovern, Member