

Meeting Minutes:

Meeting purpose:

Barking Ordinance

Meeting date and time:

October 17, 2017

Location:

Zimmerman Center,
1801 Virginia Lane

Attendees:

Animal Control Board
Members, Jeannette
Vieg, Delmer Schmidt,
Cara Chamberlain,
John Scheuering

Deputy City Attorney:
Teague Westrope

City Attorney: Brent
Brooks

Animal Control Staff:
Tom Stinchfield,
Animal Control
Supervisor

Recorded by:

Kristal Ward

I. Meeting called to order:

Acting Chairperson Jeannette Vieg called meeting to order

A. The minutes of the April 2017 meeting were approved and seconded

II. Potbellied pig update:

City Attorney Brent Brooks gives an update on the Pot Bellied Pig Ordinance

III. Presentation of the barking dog ordinance:

Discussion is led by Animal Control Supervisor Tom Stinchfield

- A. Explains what the current ordinance says and explains how it is enforced
- B. Explains why citizens do not like the way the ordinance is enforced
- C. Asks for any new ideas or changes that could be made to the current ordinance
- D. City Attorney Brent Brooks outlines the barking ordinances for other Montana cities and finds that our current ordinance is right in line with other cities.
- E. Deputy City Attorney Teague Westrope discusses how his office prosecutes these cases and he is open to drafting an ordinance for consideration if anybody has any new ideas
- F. Biggest problem with current ordinance is citizens do not follow through with their complaint. They do not want to do the bark log
- G. Suggested that current fine be raised for a violation of this ordinance

IV. Education is key:

Discussion by all present

- A. What type of education is offered to citizens who adopt an animal

Tom Stinchfield discusses what type of information is available to people who adopt a pet

Discussion on bark collars, training, vocal cord surgery to curb barking

- B. City Sponsored workshop

Would the city consider a workshop open to the public to help educate our citizens on responsible pet ownership.

- C. Public Service Announcements

V. Dogs in parks:

Animal Control Supervisor Tom Stinchfield gives an update to all present

On how the ordinance is being enforced and any type of problems the Animal Control Division has encountered since the passage of the ordinance.

VI. Meeting adjourned:

Acting Chairperson Jeannette Vieg moves to adjourn the meeting