

**ORDINANCE NO. 2017-11-4443**

**AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF ARKANSAS CITY SECTION 10-7, REGARDING VACCINATION OF DOGS AND CATS.**

**WHEREAS**, current Municipal Code requires dogs and cats to be immunized against rabies once per year; and

**WHEREAS**, certain rabies vaccines are now effective for three years; and

**WHEREAS**, Arkansas City veterinarians indicate the three-year vaccine is just as effective against rabies infection as the one-year vaccine; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body desires to amend Municipal Code to recognize that responsible pet owners may choose to utilize the three-year rabies vaccine in lieu of the one-year vaccine.

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ARKANSAS CITY, KANSAS:**

**SECTION ONE: AMENDMENT TO MUNICIPAL CODE.**

The Governing Body of the City of Arkansas City hereby amends Section 10-7 of the Arkansas City Municipal Code to read as follows (deleted provisions struck through, new provisions in italics):

**Sec. 10-7 Vaccination of dogs and cats.**

(a) Every owner and/or harbinger of a dog or cat over four months of age shall:

- (1) Ensure the animal is *currently* immunized against rabies by a licensed veterinarian not less than once every 12 months *if given a one-year vaccine or not less than once every 36 months if given a three-year vaccine*; and
- (2) Maintain on the animal's collar a tag obtained from a licensed veterinarian evidencing that animal's current rabies vaccination.

(b) Counterfeit tag. It shall be unlawful for any person to attach a rabies vaccination tag:

- (1) To an animal that is not vaccinated as required by subsection (a)(1) of this section;
- (2) To an animal that provides vaccination proof of another animal; or
- (3) That is false, forged, counterfeit or imitation.

(c) If such immunization would be injurious to the health of the dog or cat, it shall be sufficient compliance with this section to produce a certified statement from a licensed veterinarian to that effect.

**SECTION TWO: PUBLICATION; EFFECTIVE DATE.** This ordinance, or a summary thereof, shall be published one time in the official city newspaper, and shall take effect and be in force from and after said publication.

**PASSED AND ORDAINED** by the Governing Body of the City of Arkansas City, Kansas this 7th day of November, 2017.

Dan Jurkovich, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lesley Shook, City Clerk

DRAFTED AND APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Tamara L. Niles, City Attorney