



# City of Grand Island

Tuesday, December 16, 2003

## Study Session

### Item -2

#### Discussion of Dog Ordinances

*Three ordinances have been drafted for addressing some concerns that have been raised recently about the City Dog and Animal Ordinances. One ordinance would make a change to the mandatory annual meeting times from the current requirements for meetings on the first Tuesday of January and the first Tuesday of July to the first week of January and the first week of July. This change is being proposed for two reasons which are that the first Tuesday of these months will on some years fall on a holiday and also because the Animal advisory Board has changed its meeting days to Monday. The proposed change will give the Board enough additional flexibility in scheduling its meetings so that it will not be in conflict with the City Code.*

*The second ordinance has been drafted to address the concerns of the Grand Island Kennel Club. The Kennel Club is being annexed into the City and this ordinance will establish a permitting procedure and an exemption to the animal running at large ordinance for training and showing dogs by a nationally recognized animal organization or a local affiliate.*

*A third ordinance is being proposed to exempt police dogs from the animal running at large and the dangerous dog ordinances. Law enforcement has requested that a specific exemption be placed in the municipal code for the training and use of dogs for law enforcement purposes. The exemption would apply to dogs from all of the various law enforcement agencies.*

Staff Contact: Doug Walker

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_

An ordinance to amend Chapter 5 of the Grand Island City Code; to amend Section 5-2 pertaining to required dates for meetings of the Animal Advisory Board; to add Section 5-34.1 pertaining to animal training and shows; to add Section 5-34.2 pertaining to an exemption for animals used and trained for law enforcement purposes; to repeal Section 5-2 as now existing, and any ordinance or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith; and to provide for publication and the effective date of this ordinance.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA:

SECTION 1. Section 5-2 of the Grand Island City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

**§5-2. Animal Advisory Board; Establishment**

There is hereby established the Animal Advisory Board of the City of Grand Island, whose duty it shall be to advise the mayor and city council on all matters relating to this chapter. The board shall be composed of seven members: four members appointed by the mayor subject to confirmation by the city council; and the chief of police or his/her designee, the director of the humane society or his/her designee, and the director of the department of health or his/her designee. Appointed members shall serve without compensation. The Animal Advisory Board shall meet ~~during on the first week of Tuesday falling after January 1 and the first week of July 1~~ of each year and/or such other occasions as may be established by said board. Attendance by any four or more members shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 2. Section 5-\_\_\_\_ is hereby added to the Grand Island City Code to read as follows:

**§5-34.1. Animal Training and Shows**

Animals may be off a leash when they are being trained for hunting or an animal show at a facility that is owned, leased or operated by a nationally recognized organization or a local affiliate sanctioned by such organization for the training, showing and betterment of animals such as the American Kennel Club or the United Kennel Club. Animals may be off of a leash at an animal show that is sanctioned by a nationally recognized animal organization if such show obtains a permit from the Grand Island Humane Society. The application for said permit shall set forth the date and place of the show or event, and list the types of activities that will be taking place at the event. If the activities at such animal show do not violate any of the provisions of the Grand Island City Code other than the running at large ordinance, or involve inhumane treatment of the animals at such event then a permit shall be issued by the Grand Island Humane Society and a copy of the permit shall be sent to the Grand Island City Clerk and to the Grand Island Police Department.

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_ (Cont.)

SECTION 3. Section 5-\_\_\_\_ is hereby added to the Grand Island City Code to read as follow:

**§5-34.2 Animals Used and Trained for Law Enforcement; Exemption**

Any animal used by law enforcement agencies including but not limited to the City of Grand Island Police Department, the Hall County Sheriff's Department or the Nebraska State Patrol shall be exempted from the provisions of the Grand Island City Ordinances including the Animal Running at Large and Dangerous Dogs Ordinances while such animal is being trained or used for law enforcement purposes.

SECTION 4. Section 5-2 as now existing, and any ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith be, and hereby are, repealed.

SECTION 5. That this ordinance shall be in force and take effect from and after its passage and publication, within fifteen days in one issue of the Grand Island Independent as provided by law.

Enacted: December 23, 2003.

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Jay Vavricek, Mayor

Attest:

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RaNae Edwards, City Clerk