

Chapter 6.08

LICENSES

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6.8.010 License issuance and fee collection--Office designated.

A. The animal control office is designated as the official agent of the city for the purpose of issuing city dog and cat licenses and collecting fees therefore pursuant to the provisions of this title.

B. The animal control office shall have authority to enter into agreements with other governmental agencies, a corporation, or an individual as a collection agent, for the efficient collection of license fees and the issuance of city dog and cat licenses. (Prior code § 4.0802)

6.8.020 Licenses.

A. Every owner of a domestic pet as listed in section 6.12.050 shall procure a city animal license for each calendar year from the animal control office before the first day of February of the calendar year for which the license is in effect.

B. An animal license is required for every domestic pet over six months of age or a dog or cat under six months of age that is no longer with its dam.

C. All licenses, regardless of date of issue, shall expire on December 31st of the year the license was in effect or upon the expiration of the rabies vaccination, as shown on the furnished certificate of vaccination, whichever date occurs first. Should a new rabies certificate of vaccination be provided, the license will then be valid until December 31st.

D. The annual license fee shall be five dollars for each neutered animal and ten dollars (\$10.00) for each unneutered animal.

E. At the time of making application for the city license, the owner shall furnish to the animal control office a veterinarian's certificate showing that the animal for which the license is sought has been vaccinated and that such vaccination has not expired. In order to take advantage of the lower rate for neutered animals, the owner shall, at the time application is made for an animal license, present a certificate of neutering, signed by a veterinarian, containing a description of the animal, its call name, and a date of neutering if known. Such certificates may be used in

subsequent annual license applications. Upon payment of the license fee set forth above, the animal control office shall issue to the owner a license which shall contain the name of the owner, his or her place of residence, and a description of the animal. The animal control office shall keep a duplicate of each license issued as a public record.

F. Upon issuance of the license, the animal control office, shall deliver or mail to the owner a metal tag, or leg ring, stamped with the number of the license and the year for which it is issued. (Amended 2019)

6.08.030 Exceptions to licensing requirement.

The provisions of this title shall not be intended to apply to dogs or cats whose owners are nonresidents temporarily within the city, kennel dogs which are kept or raised in facilities licensed pursuant to the South Dakota law solely for the bona fide purpose of sale and which are kept under constant restraint, to dogs or cats brought into the city for the purpose of participating in any dog or cat show, to seeing-eye dogs properly trained to assist blind persons for the purpose of aiding them in going from place to place and providing such dogs are kept restrained on the owner's premises, under supervision or control at all times, or under leash at all times, or to dogs being utilized by the North Sioux City police department and Union County sheriff's department for law enforcement purposes under its canine patrol program. (Prior code § 4.0804)

6.08.040 Display of tag.

The tag issued by animal control pursuant to Section 6.08.020 may be attached by the owner to a substantial collar during the term of the license, and it must be displayed to the animal control officer or its designees upon demand. Dogs in fenced kennels, fenced exercise yards, on pickets, in buildings, automobiles, or under effective control for exercise, work or training will not be required to wear tags or collars, or leashes, if the stated conditions of training, work or exercise are incompatible with the wearing of such articles. Upon the expiration of the license, the owner shall remove the tag from the dog or cat. (Prior code § 4.0805) (Amended 2019)

6.08.050 Transfer or change of ownership.

A. It is unlawful for any person engage in the business of keeping or providing dogs and cats for adoption or selling dogs or cats to transfer ownership of a dog or cat to a resident of the city unless the purchaser has acquired a dog or cat license from the city or the seller, or the seller has made application for such license on behalf of the purchaser along with the fees herein required.

B. In all other instances, when the permanent ownership of the dog or cat is transferred, the new owner shall, within thirty (30) days from the date of change of ownership, make application for a new license regardless of whether or not the dog or cat was previously licensed, and shall pay the full annual license fee. (Prior code § 4.0806)

6.08.060 Duplicate tag.

Upon the filing of an affidavit that the license has been lost or destroyed, the owner may obtain another tag upon payment of two dollars to the finance officer or his or her assistants. The animal control shall enter in the license record the new number assigned. (Prior code § 4.0807) (Amended 2019)

6.08.070 Removal of license tags.

It is unlawful for any person who is not the owner or the agent of such owner or an employee of the city or its agent, acting in an official capacity, to remove a license tag from a dog or cat prior to the expiration of the license. (Prior code § 4.0808)

6.08.080 Violations--Penalties.

Any person who violates any of the provisions of Sections 6.08.020, 6.08.040, 6.08.050 or 6.08.070 shall be subject to a fine not to exceed Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) for the first violation and Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each subsequent violation occurring within three hundred sixty-five (365) days of the first violation. For all violations there will be a court cost added to the ticket of an amount as may be established by the Unified Judicial System. (Prior code § 4.0809) (Amended 2019)