

ORDINANCE 17- 03

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE III, SECTIONS 4-62; 4-62.1 AND 4-63 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADOPTION OF OWNER SURRENDERED ANIMALS AND LITTERS TO BE ADOPTED OUT IMMEDIATELY, TO ALLOW LITTERS OF ANIMALS TO BE ADOPTED, TO ELIMINATE THE IMPOUNDMENT REQUIREMENT OF TEN (10) DAYS, AND FOR RELATED MATTERS

WHEREAS, the City of Vicksburg Animal Control Department operates an animal shelter or pound facility in addition to picking up animals running at large; and

WHEREAS, there have been numerous instances where pet owners have surrendered litters of puppies or kittens or other pets to the animal shelter; and

WHEREAS, the survival rate of these puppies, kittens and other pets under fifteen (15) weeks old that have been surrendered to the shelter, as opposed to being picked up, greatly increases if these animals can be adopted out immediately instead of being held for five (5) days; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous individuals and groups working with the animal shelter to assist in finding homes for these surrendered animals and the fee for adopting a litter under fifteen (15) weeks old should be the same as adopting a single animal which is older than fifteen (15) weeks; and

WHEREAS, the only requirement for impoundment is five (5) days for animals caught running at large and therefore, it is not necessary to have a requirement longer than five (5) days for impoundment of owner surrendered animals which should be in the discretion of the Animal Control Department as to whether or not an animal should be held for adoption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI as follows:

SECTION ONE: Sec. 4-62. Same - Redemption of unclaimed animals. as it presently exists shall be deleted in its entirety.

SECTION TWO: The following language shall be substituted in place of the deleted language in Sec. 4-62:

Sec. 4-62. Redemption of unclaimed animals.

(A) If the owner of any dog or cat or other animal that has been found running at large and picked up by the Animal Control Officers, shall fail to redeem the animal within five (5) days after such impoundment, any other person may, upon complying with the provisions of this article, redeem such dog, cat or other animal from the pound and be the lawful owner of such dog or cat or other animal thereafter. Said redemption shall include reimbursement of the city of

(B) If any animal or litter of puppies or kittens, is surrendered to the pound by its owner, upon completion of the proper form, the animal or litter may be adopted out immediately. The decision of whether or not to allow adoption of any animal(s) is solely within the discretion of the city.

SECTION THREE: Sec. 4-62.1.(1) Same - Waiver of adoption fees. Subsection (1) as it presently exists shall be deleted in its entirety.

SECTION FOUR: The following language shall be substituted in place of the deleted language in Sec. 4-62.1(1):

Sec. 4-62.1. Same - Waiver of adoption fees.

As used in this chapter:

(1) An individual, group or organization actively involved or associated with the rescue of animals, whose objective and goal is to prevent the animal from being euthanized and finding it a permanent home, is hereby exempt from payment of an adoption fee as set forth by the City of Vicksburg. For animals or litters that have been surrendered by the owner, the individual, group or organization may submit a request to the animal shelter to adopt the animal(s). For animals or litters that were found running at large, at the expiration of five (5) days, the individual, group or organization may submit a request to the animal shelter to adopt the animal(s). The request for adoption shall be on a form obtained by the animal control department. If anyone adopts an entire litter of animals under fifteen (15) weeks old, the fee shall be the same as for adopting one animal.

SECTION FIVE: Sec. 4-63. Same - Disposal of unclaimed animals. as it presently exists shall be deleted in its entirety.

SECTION SIX: The following language shall be substituted in place of the deleted language in Sec. 4-63:

Sec. 4-63. Same - Disposal of unclaimed animals.

All dogs, cats and other animals may be disposed of by humane means in accordance with Mississippi law.

SO RESOLVED this the 10th day of April, 2017.

THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE  
CITY OF VICKSBURG, MS

  
George Flaggs, Jr., Mayor

  
Michael A. Mayfield, Sr., Alderman

Absent  
Willis T. Thompson, Alderman

THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING ORDINANCE was introduced in writing and on motion by Mayor Flaggs, seconded by Alderman Mayfield, it was read in full the first time, by its title the second time, and again read in full the third time, was discussed and was then read and considered section by section and voted upon as follows:

Section One:

Yeas: Mayor Flaggs, Alderman Mayfield

Nays: None

Section Two:

Yeas: Mayor Flaggs, Alderman Mayfield

Nays: None

Section Three:

Yeas: Mayor Flaggs, Alderman Mayfield

Nays: None

Section Four:

Yeas: Mayor Flaggs, Alderman Mayfield

Nays: None

Section Five:

Yeas: Mayor Flaggs, Alderman Mayfield

Nays: None

Section Six:

Yeas: Mayor Flaggs, Alderman Mayfield

Nays: None

THOSE IN FAVOR OF THE ORDINANCE AS A WHOLE:

Yeas: Mayor Flaggs, Alderman Mayfield

Nays: None

Pursuant to the foregoing vote, the ordinance was adopted.

ATTEST:

*Doris D. [Signature]*  
CITY CLERK



*[Signature]*  
MAYOR

# **CERTIFICATE**

**I, Walter W. Osborne, Jr, the duly appointed, qualified and acting City Clerk and lawful custodian of the Minutes of The Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Vicksburg and Seal of said City, Certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of an Ordinance Adopted by the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Vicksburg at an Adjourned Board Meeting held on Monday, April 10, 2017.**

**WITNESS my signature and official seal of office this 10<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017.**

  
**Walter W. Osborne, Jr., City Clerk**

