

**TOWN OF PLATTSBURGH  
LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF THE YEAR 2011  
TITLE: "ESTABLISHING DOG LICENSING FEES"**

**SECTION ONE  
TITLE**

A Local Law entitled "Establishing Dog Licensing Fees".

**SECTION TWO  
PURPOSE**

The Town of Plattsburgh finds that the running at large and other uncontrollable behavior of dogs have caused physical harm to persons, damage to property and created nuisances within the Town. The purpose of this Local Law is to protect the health, safety and well-being of persons and property within the Town by imposing restrictions on the keeping of dogs within the Town.

**SECTION THREE  
AUTHORITY**

This Local Law is enacted pursuant to the provisions of the Agriculture and Markets Law and the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York.

**SECTION FOUR  
DEFINITION OF TERMS**

As used in this Local Law, the meanings of the respective terms are as follows:

Dog: Dog shall mean male and female, licensed and unlicensed, members of the species *Canis familiaris*.

Owner: The party purchasing the license, unless the dog is or has been lost and such loss reported to the Dog Control Officer and reasonable search has been made. If an animal is not licensed, the term of "owner" shall designate and cover any person or persons, firm, association or corporation, who or which at any time owns or has custody or control of, harbors, or is otherwise responsible for any animal which is kept, brought or comes within the Town. Any person owning or harboring a dog for a period of one (1) week prior to the filing of any complaint charging a violation of this Local Law shall be held

and deemed to be the owner of such dog for the purpose of this Local Law. In the event any dog found to be in violation of this Local Law shall be owned by a minor, the head of the household in which said minor resides shall be deemed to have custody and control of said dog and shall be responsible for any acts of the said dog and violation of this Local Law.

Purebred License: A license issued to the owner of one or more purebred dogs registered by a recognized registry association.

## SECTION FIVE LICENSING OF DOGS

(a) All dogs in the Town of Plattsburgh must be licensed with the Town Clerk by the age of 4 months and are required to present a current Certificate of Rabies at the time of licensing or the renewal of an existing license.

(b) All dog licenses will be for a period of one year and will expire at the end of the month one year from the date of issue.

(c) Fees for Licensing Dogs:

(i) The fee for a spayed or neutered dog will be \$15.00 (\$7.00 for owners 65 years of age or more), said amount includes a New York State surcharge of \$1.00.

(ii) The fee for an unsprayed or unneutered dog will be \$20.00 (\$13.00 for owners 65 years of age or more), said amount includes a New York State surcharge of \$3.00.

(iii) Said fees shall be reviewed periodically by the Town Board and may be changed by a resolution of the Town Board, if deemed necessary.

(d) Enumeration Fee: When the Town Board determines the need for a dog enumeration, a fee of \$5.00 will be assessed to all dogs found unlicensed.

(e) Purebred License: The Town will not be issuing purebred or kennel licenses. All dogs will be licensed individually as per fee system stated above.

(f) Service Dogs: The Town of Plattsburgh will not require a license for any guide dog, service dog, hearing dog or detection dog.

(g) Loss of Tag: In the event a tag is lost, a replacement tag may be purchased from the Town Clerk for the sum of \$5.00.

(h) The Town of Plattsburgh does not allow the licensing of dogs by a shelter. The shelter MUST send the adoptive dog owners to the Town Clerk of the Town of Plattsburgh for the purchase of the license for adoption purposes.

(i) All dog licenses may be purchased by visiting the Town offices or by regular mail. If licensing or renewing a license by mail, the appropriate fee must accompany the forms. There will be NO refund of fees.

(j) All fees will be used in funding the administration of the Dog Control Law of the Town of Plattsburgh, with the exception of New York State surcharges.

#### SECTION SIX IDENTIFICATION OF DOGS

(a) Each dog licensed, pursuant to this Local Law, shall be assigned, at the time the dog is first licensed, a Town of Plattsburgh identification number. Such identification number shall be carried by the dog, on an identification tag which shall be affixed to a collar on the dog at all times.

(b) No tag carrying an identification number shall be affixed to the collar of any dog other than the dog to which that number has been assigned.

#### SECTION SEVEN VIOLATIONS

(a) It shall be a violation punishable as provided in the penalties section of this Local Law for:

(i) Any owner to fail to license any dog which they own;

(ii) Any owner to fail to have any dog identification, as required by this Local

Law;

(iii) Any person to affix to any dog any false or improper identification, tag or special identification tags for identifying guide, service, hearing or purebred dogs.

SECTION EIGHT  
PENALTIES

Any person convicted of a violation of this Local Law shall be liable for a civil penalty of not less than Twenty-Five (\$25.00) Dollars for a first violation, Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars for a second violation, and One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars for each subsequent violation.

SECTION NINE  
SEPARABILITY

Each separate provision of this Local Law shall be deemed independent of all other provisions herein and if any provisions shall be deemed or declared invalid, all other provisions hereof shall remain valid and enforceable.

SECTION TEN  
REPEALER

This Local Law shall supersede all prior Local Laws, Ordinances, Rules and Regulations relative to dog licensing fees within the Town of Plattsburgh to the extent they are inconsistent with this Local Law.

SECTION ELEVEN  
EFFECTIVE DATE

This Local Law shall be effective upon its filing with the office of the Secretary of State.