**City of Uniontown**
**206 Sherman St, PO Box 51**
**Uniontown, KS 66779**
**620-756-4742**

ORDINANCE NO. 210

**AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE KEEPING, REGISTRATION, VACCINATION, CONFINEMENT, AND CONTROL OF ANIMALS WITHIN THE CITY OF UNIONTOWN, KANSAS; PROHIBITING ANIMALS FROM RUNNING AT LARGE; REGULATING VICIOUS AND DANGEROUS ANIMALS; PROVIDING FOR COMPLAINTS, HEARINGS, ENFORCEMENT, IMPOUNDMENT, REDEMPTION, PENALTIES, AND DISPOSITION OF ANIMALS; AND REPEALING ORDINANCES 85, 169, 174, 176, 186, 196.**

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

SECTION 1. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this ordinance is to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the City of Uniontown by regulating the keeping of dogs, cats, fowl, livestock, wild animals, exotic animals, and other animals within the corporate limits of the City; requiring the registration and rabies vaccination of dogs and cats; preventing animals from running at large; regulating vicious and dangerous animals; establishing requirements for the confinement of certain animals; providing for animal impoundment and disposition; and establishing penalties and enforcement procedures.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this ordinance, the following definitions shall apply:

A. “Animal” means any domestic animal, livestock, wild animal, exotic animal, fowl, or other animal kept, maintained, possessed, or harbored within the corporate limits of the City.

B. “Animal Control Officer” means any person designated by the City to enforce the animal-control provisions of this ordinance.

C. “City” means the City of Uniontown, Kansas.

D. “Domestic animal” means an animal commonly kept as a household pet or domesticated animal, including dogs and cats.

E. “Owner, keeper, or harborer” means any person who owns, possesses, keeps, maintains, shelters, feeds, harbors, or exercises control over an animal.

F. “Running at large” means an animal that is not confined within a residence, secure fence, secure pen or kennel, or otherwise under sufficient physical restraint to prevent the animal from entering a public right-of-way or the property of another person.

G. “Vicious or dangerous animal” means an animal that:

1. Has attacked or bitten a human being or domestic animal;
2. Has a known propensity, tendency, or disposition to attack, cause injury to, or threaten the safety of human beings or domestic animals; or
3. Has a history of attacking or wounding persons or domestic animals.

SECTION 3. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ANIMALS.

A. The maximum number of dogs and cats permitted at any residence within the City shall be a **total of three (3) animals**, consisting of:

1. Any combination of dogs and cats not exceeding a **total of three (3) animals.**

B. Chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, or other domestic fowl shall not exceed six (6) total at any residence.

C. The limitations of this section shall not prohibit the temporary keeping of animals in accordance with the temporary-registration provisions of this ordinance or animals maintained by a licensed veterinary clinic, animal shelter, or other facility lawfully authorized to possess such animals.

SECTION 4. REGISTRATION OF DOGS AND CATS.

A. Every owner or harborer of any dog or cat over 6 months of age kept within the City shall annually register such animal with the City Clerk or the City Clerk’s designated agent.

B. Registration shall include the owner’s name and address and the name, sex, color, breed or description, and other identifying information concerning each dog or cat.

C. An owner of a newly acquired dog or cat, or an owner who brings a dog or cat into the City, shall register the animal within thirty (30) days of acquisition or bringing the animal into the City.

D. Any dog or cat staying at a residence within the City for a total of 30 days shall be considered to be residing at that residence for purposes of this ordinance and shall be registered as required herein.

E. A person visiting or temporarily remaining within the City with a dog or cat for fewer than thirty (30) consecutive days shall not be required to register the animal, provided the animal remains under proper restraint and is otherwise in compliance with this ordinance and applicable law.

SECTION 5. REGISTRATION FEES.

A. The annual registration fee shall be:

1. Five dollars ($5.00) for each neutered male dog or cat;
2. Five dollars ($5.00) for each spayed female dog or cat;
3. Seven dollars ($7.00) for each unneutered male dog or cat; and
4. Seven dollars ($7.00) for each unspayed female dog or cat.

B. The registration year shall run from April 1 through March 31.

C. Registration fees shall be payable on or before March 1 of each year without penalty.

D. A late registration penalty of five dollars ($5.00) per month shall be added to the applicable registration fee for any dog or cat not registered by March 31.

E. Registration fees for newly acquired animals or animals brought into the City during the registration year may be prorated as determined by the City Clerk.

F. The penalty for failure to register a dog or cat shall be twenty-five dollars ($25.00), in addition to any registration fee and late fee otherwise due, subject to applicable law.

SECTION 6. RABIES VACCINATION.

A. Every owner or harborer of a dog or cat over 6 months of age shall maintain the animal’s rabies vaccination as required by applicable law.

B. Upon registration, the owner shall present a current certificate of rabies immunization issued by an accredited or licensed veterinarian.

C. No registration shall be issued without satisfactory evidence of current rabies vaccination.

D. For purposes of City registration, a dog or cat shall be considered currently vaccinated when the animal has been vaccinated in accordance with the vaccination schedule and duration established by the administering veterinarian, applicable state law, and applicable public-health requirements.

E. An owner shall produce a current rabies certificate upon request of the City Clerk, Animal Control Officer, code enforcement officer, or law enforcement officer.

SECTION 7. REGISTRATION RECORDS AND TAGS.

A. Upon registration and payment of the required fee, the City Clerk or designated agent shall maintain a record containing the registration number, registration date, owner’s name and address, animal description, and amount paid.

B. The City Clerk or designated agent shall issue a registration certificate and registration tag for each registered dog or cat.

C. When required by the City, the registration tag shall be securely attached to the animal’s collar or harness and shall remain on the animal whenever the animal is outside the owner’s residence.

D. A lost registration tag may be replaced upon presentation of the registration certificate and payment of a two-dollar ($2.00) replacement fee.

E. It shall be unlawful to:

1. Place a registration tag issued for one animal upon another animal;
2. Make, possess, use, or display a false, forged, or counterfeit registration tag; or
3. Remove a registration tag from an animal belonging to another person without authorization.

SECTION 8. ANIMALS RUNNING AT LARGE PROHIBITED.

A. It shall be unlawful for any owner, keeper, or harborer to permit a dog or other animal to run at large within the City.

B. An animal shall be deemed to be running at large when it is not:

1. Inside a residence or other secure structure;
2. Within a secure fence, pen, or kennel;
3. Under the physical control of a person by means of a leash of sufficient strength and length to maintain control of the animal; or
4. Tethered in a manner sufficient to prevent the animal from entering a public right-of-way or the property of another person.

C. Nothing in this section shall relieve an owner of responsibility for damage or injury caused by an animal.

SECTION 9. ENFORCEMENT OF RUNNING AT LARGE.

A. When a dog or other animal is found running at large, the City may utilize progressive enforcement, including:

1. A first occurrence may result in a written warning;
2. A second occurrence may result in a final notice or citation; and
3. A third and subsequent occurrence may result in prosecution and penalties under this ordinance.

B. If the same animal is found running at large more than three (3) times within a rolling twelve-month period, the owner may be subject to the maximum penalties authorized by this ordinance and applicable law.

C. If an animal running at large bites or injures a person or domestic animal, the City may proceed directly with citation, impoundment, dangerous-animal proceedings, or other remedies authorized by this ordinance and applicable law.

D. Each incident or each day of a continuing violation may constitute a separate offense when permitted by law.

SECTION 10. PROHIBITED ANIMALS.

A. Except as otherwise permitted by state or federal law, it shall be unlawful to keep, harbor, own, or possess within the corporate limits of the City:

1. Any warm-blooded, carnivorous or omnivorous wild or exotic animal, including but not limited to non-human primates, raccoons, skunks, foxes, wild cats, and exotic cats;
2. Any animal having a poisonous bite;
3. Any wild or exotic animal prohibited by applicable state or federal law; or
4. Any fowl other than domestic chickens, domestic ducks, domestic geese, domestic turkeys, or caged birds kept as household pets.

B. Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize possession of an animal prohibited by state or federal law.

SECTION 11. VICIOUS AND DANGEROUS ANIMALS.

A. It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, harbor, or possess a vicious or dangerous animal within the City except as specifically authorized under this ordinance.

B. An animal may be determined to be vicious or dangerous when it:

1. Attacks or bites a person or domestic animal;
2. Has a known propensity, tendency, or disposition to attack, cause injury to, or threaten the safety of persons or domestic animals; or
3. Has a history of attacking or wounding persons or domestic animals.

C. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a finding that an animal is vicious or dangerous when the conduct giving rise to the complaint occurred solely because:

1. The person was committing a willful trespass or other tort upon the premises of the animal’s owner or keeper;
2. The person was provoking, teasing, tormenting, abusing, or assaulting the animal;
3. The person was committing or attempting to commit a crime.

SECTION 12. COMPLAINT CONCERNING VICIOUS OR DANGEROUS ANIMAL.

A. A written and signed complaint alleging that an animal is vicious or dangerous may be filed with the City Clerk or Animal Control Officer.

B. The complaint shall identify, to the extent reasonably possible, the animal, the animal’s owner or keeper, the location of the animal, and the facts supporting the allegation.

C. A complaint may be filed by an affected resident, law enforcement officer, Animal Control Officer, or other person having personal knowledge of the conduct.

SECTION 13. NOTICE AND HEARING.

A. Upon receipt of a complaint, the City shall provide notice to the owner or keeper of the animal.

B. The owner shall be advised of the time and place of the hearing sufficiently in advance to permit the owner a reasonable opportunity to appear and be heard, but in no event less than five (5) days before the hearing unless emergency action is otherwise authorized by law.

C. Notice may be personally served or provided by certified mail or by any other method authorized by applicable law.

D. If the owner fails to appear after proper notice, the Municipal Court may proceed in the owner’s absence to the extent permitted by law.

SECTION 14. HEARING AND DETERMINATION.

A. The Municipal Court shall determine whether the animal is vicious or dangerous based upon the evidence presented.

B. Factors the Court may consider include, but are not limited to:

1. The nature and circumstances of the alleged attack or conduct;
2. The severity of any injuries;
3. The animal’s history of attacks or aggressive conduct;
4. Whether the animal has previously been declared dangerous;
5. The animal’s propensity to cause injury;
6. The circumstances under which the conduct occurred; and
7. Any other relevant evidence concerning the safety of persons or animals.

C. Evidence that an animal has bitten or attacked a person or domestic animal may constitute evidence supporting a determination that the animal is vicious or dangerous.

SECTION 15. EMERGENCY MUZZLING ORDER.

Whenever the Mayor determines that an emergency condition exists requiring additional protection for the inhabitants of the City from dog bites or animal attacks, the Mayor may issue an order requiring dogs within the City to be effectively muzzled for a specified period, subject to applicable law.

Any such order shall be publicly announced or published in a manner reasonably calculated to provide notice to affected residents.

SECTION 16. IMPOUNDMENT.

A. Any dog, cat, or other animal found running at large or otherwise found in violation of this ordinance may be impounded by the Animal Control Officer, law enforcement officer, or other authorized City personnel, subject to applicable law.

B. Impounded animals may be transported to a City pound, animal shelter, veterinary hospital, or other lawful facility for custody, treatment, examination, or observation.

C. An animal suspected of having rabies or another communicable disease shall be handled in accordance with applicable state and local public-health requirements.

D. An animal may be euthanized by a licensed veterinarian when authorized by applicable law and when the veterinarian determines that the animal is diseased, suffering, or otherwise beyond reasonable recovery.

E. Nothing in this section authorizes the City to dispose of an animal in a manner prohibited by state or federal law.

SECTION 17. REDEMPTION OF IMPOUNDED ANIMALS.

A. Before an impounded animal is lawfully sold, transferred, euthanized, or otherwise disposed of, the owner may redeem the animal upon satisfaction of all applicable requirements.

B. Redemption shall require, as applicable:

1. Payment of all lawful impoundment fees;
2. Payment of reasonable boarding and veterinary expenses;
3. Payment of applicable fines and registration fees;
4. Proof of current rabies vaccination;
5. Registration of the animal if required;
6. Compliance with any lawful court order; and
7. Compliance with any other applicable provision of this ordinance.

C. The impoundment fee shall be twenty-five dollars ($25.00) for the first three (3) days of impoundment, plus an additional twenty-five dollars ($25.00) for each day thereafter, unless a different amount is established by resolution or otherwise permitted by law.

D. An animal shall not be released if release would violate a court order, state law, or this ordinance.

E. Impoundment shall not preclude prosecution for any violation of this ordinance.

F. A minimum fine of one hundred dollars ($100.00) shall be imposed if an impounded animal is not redeemed by the owner or other person lawfully entitled to redeem.

SECTION 18. DISPOSITION OF UNCLAIMED ANIMALS.

A. An impounded animal shall be held for a period of three (3) days for redemption by the owner or other person lawfully entitled to redeem the animal. If the animal is not lawfully redeemed within three (3) days, it may be transferred, placed, sold, euthanized, or otherwise disposed of as authorized by applicable law.

B. Any sale or disposition shall be conducted in accordance with applicable Kansas law and City procedures.

C. Costs associated with shelter, food, handling, transportation, veterinary treatment, and other lawful care may be assessed against the responsible owner to the extent permitted by law.

SECTION 19. PENALTIES.

A. Any person violating any provision of this ordinance shall be subject to the penalties authorized by applicable Kansas law and City ordinance.

B. Unless a different penalty is specifically established by this ordinance or applicable law; a violation may be punished by a fine within the range authorized for municipal ordinance violations.

C. A violation involving an animal running at large may, to the extent permitted by law, result in a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars ($25.00) and not more than two hundred fifty dollars ($250.00).

D. A violation involving a vicious or dangerous animal may result in any fine, court order, impoundment, removal, confinement requirement, or other remedy authorized by applicable law and this ordinance.

E. Each day or incident of a continuing violation may constitute a separate offense when permitted by law.

F. In addition to any fine or other penalty authorized by law, the Court may order the responsible person to pay reasonable and lawful costs associated with the impoundment, boarding, feeding, transportation, veterinary treatment, and other care of an animal.

SECTION 20. ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.

A. The City Clerk, Animal Control Officer, code enforcement officer, law enforcement officers, and other persons authorized by the governing body may enforce this ordinance.

B. Authorized personnel may issue warnings, notices, citations, complaints, or other enforcement documents authorized by law.

C. Nothing in this ordinance shall limit the authority of law enforcement, public-health officials, veterinarians, or other governmental authorities to take action authorized by state or federal law.

SECTION 21. STATE LAW AND DANGEROUS REGULATED ANIMALS.

A. Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to exempt any person from compliance with the Kansas Dangerous Regulated Animals Act, K.S.A. 32-1301 et seq., as amended, or any other applicable state or federal law.

B. Where state law establishes additional registration, identification, confinement, insurance, recordkeeping, inspection, veterinary-care, reporting, seizure, or other requirements for a dangerous regulated animal, the owner shall comply with those requirements in addition to the requirements of this ordinance.

C. Where a provision of this ordinance conflicts with a mandatory provision of state or federal law, the applicable state or federal law shall control to the extent of the conflict.

SECTION 22. REPEAL OF PRIOR ORDINANCES.

Upon the effective date of this ordinance, Ordinance No. 169, Ordinance No. 85, and all other ordinances or portions of ordinances of the City of Uniontown that are inconsistent or in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 24. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and effect upon its passage, approval, and publication as required by law.

Passed and approved this 10th day of November, 2026.

Larry Jurgensen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Haley Arnold, City Clerk

(SEAL)

Publication Date: November 21, 2026