



Animal Control

Regular

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~ Minutes ~

City Clerk

Thursday, February 15, 2024

10:00 AM

City Hall -- Room 205

Call to Order

10:00 AM Meeting called to order on February 15, 2024 at City Hall -- Room 205, 36 Court Street, Springfield, MA.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Keith Fleming	Police Officer	Absent	
Camile Nelson Campbell	Deputy City Clerk	Present	
Melvin A. Edwards	Ward 3 Councilor	Present	
Megan Landry	Board Member	Remote	
Veronica Johns	Board Member	Remote	

Dog Hearing

1. Nuisance Dog Hearing for Dog Named Bella at 27 Sylvester St Owned by Charles Sellers

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Read and Officer Rene Robichaud, from TJO stated she requested this hearing following the original hearing. Officer Robichaud stated in her report that she received fifteen (15) Twenty (20) videos of the dog been walked off leased on the property or leased and not muzzled when off the property. TJO also received several complaints, the people are living in fear. The dog remained unlicensed.

Complainants

Alexa Arroyo reported there are about twenty six (26) videos. The dog is off lease on the property and leased and not muzzled when off the property. She's unable to get her mail for almost a year, the last time the dog chased her, she got hurt. She's in fear of the dog and scared. She wants something to be done.

Frank Holmes stated because of the dog he has to put a 14 foot fence on his side of the property. The dog launched at him. Mr Sellers walked the dog with no muzzle and waved at him. He is very afraid of leaving his home or have visitors. Mr Sellers came to his work and he had to take out a restraining order against Mr. Sellers.

Owner/Respondent

Marcia Sellers, wife of Mr.Sellers owner of the dog, stated the dog is not vicious and the dog is not trained to attack people. She reached out Animal Control to get some help with the dog.

Rebuttals**Complainants**

Ms. Arroyo says this has been a problem for many years and there are over a 100 calls. Mrs Sellers have the police harrasing her.

Mr Holmes says the last three(3) years there no quality of life, only quantify of fair.

Owner/Respondent

Mrs. Sellers says she has noting to say.

Councilor Edwards asked Officer Robichaud what are their recommendation.

Officer Robichaud says to deem the dog dangerous and to turn the dog over to TJO.

Motion

Camile Nelson Campbell, Chair made a motion to deem the dog **dangerous**, seconded by Board Member Johns.

Motion passed by roll call vote with Officer Fleming absent.