



# Animal Control

Regular

<http://www.springfieldcityhall.com>

~ Minutes ~

City Clerk

Thursday, July 18, 2024

10:00 AM

Hybrid Room 205

## Call to Order

10:00 AM Meeting called to order on July 18, 2024 at Hybrid Room 205, City Hall, Springfield, MA.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Keith Fleming	Police Officer	Present	9:59 AM
Camile Nelson Campbell	Deputy City Clerk	Present	9:59 AM
Melvin A. Edwards	Ward 3 Councilor	Present	9:59 AM
Megan Landry	Board Member	Present	9:59 AM
Veronica Johns	Board Member	Absent	

## Approval of Minutes

### 1. March 13 - 2024

#### COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Read and Board Member Edwards made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Board Member Fleming.

#### Roll call votes on the motion

Board Member Johns		absent
Board Member Edwards	Yes	
Board Member Fleming	Yes	
Board Member Landry	Yes	
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes	

Minutes approved by roll call votes 3-0

**2. May 2-2024**

**COMMENTS - Current Meeting:**

Read and Board Member Edwards made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Board Member Fleming.

**Roll call votes on the motion**

Board Member Johns		absent
Board Member Edwards	Yes	
Board Member Fleming	Yes	
Board Member Landry	Yes	
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes	

Minutes approved by roll call votes 3-0

***Hearing Requested***

**1. Dangerous/Nuisance Dog Hearing for Two (2) Dogs at 90 High St Owned by Harrison Bonner, Manager- BC Mass Holding, LLC-183 High Street, Holyoke- MA 01040**

**COMMENTS - Current Meeting:**

Read and Atty Shewchuk stated he sent the property owner a letter. The landlord is not the owner of the dogs and the property owner said the tenant moved out.

**Complainant**

Paula Starnes asked when did the landlord say he evicted the tenant.

Atty Shewchuk said the 17th of July.

Ms. Starnes asked if there is a way to require the landlord to put in place, that their tenants have to act responsible or walked their dog on a leash.

Atty Shewchuk said there are law that's already put in place.

Ms. Starnes states there are lot of children.

Officer Renee Robichaud from Thomas J. O'Connor (TJO), read their report.

**Board Member Edwards made a motion to continue for the next hearing the motion was seconded by Board Member Fleming.**

**Roll call votes on the motion**

Board Member Johns		absent
Board Member Edwards	Yes	
Board Member Fleming	Yes	
Board Member Landry	Yes	
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes	

Motion passed by roll call votes 4-0

**2. Dangerous Dog Hearig for Dog Named Emmy at 1859 Roosevelt Ave Owned by Amanda-Lee Camacho**

**COMMENTS - Current Meeting:**

Read and Officer Renee Robichaud from Thomas J. O'Connor read their report.

**Complainant**

Ashley Brennan stated the fence is falling down and all she wants is for the dog to stop going in her yard. The dog has defecated on her property.

**Respondent**

Amanda-Lee Camacho stated the entire fence line is broken. Ms. Brennan hit her dog with a shovel. Ms. Camacho presented video of the adjacent fence that was taken on July 17.

**Rebuttal**

Ms. Brennan said the picture that Ms. Camacho showed the board has nothing to do with her (Ms. Camacho) side of the fence, the picture showed is the other side of the fence. Ms. Camacho bought the fence two (2) weeks ago, and she would like to see the video of her hitting Ms. Camacho dog.

Ms. Camacho said she don't know what else to say, but this could've all been avoided.

**Board Member Edwards made a motion to deem the dog a Nuisance the motion was seconded by Board Member Fleming.**

**Roll call votes on the motion**

Board Member Johns		absent
Board Member Edwards	Yes	
Board Member Fleming	Yes	
Board Member Landry	Yes	
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes	

Motion passed by roll call votes 4-0

The board voted to deem the dog **Nuisance** by roll call votes.

**The Advisory and Hearing Committee has imposed the following conditions on the animal:**

1. The fence to be properly installed within two (2) weeks.
2. Thomas J. O’Connor (TJO) to visit with in two (2) weeks. As defined in Chapter 110, Section 9 of the Code of the City of Springfield Ordinance.

**Roll call votes on the conditions**

Board Member Johns		absent
Board Member Edwards	Yes	
Board Member Fleming	Yes	
Board Member Landry	Yes	
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes	

condition passed by roll call votes 4-0

**3. Dangerous Dog Hearing for Dog Named Dino at 46 Hampden St Owned by Ruvelson Perez**

**COMMENTS - Current Meeting:**

Read and Officer Renee Robichaud from Thomas J. O'Connor (TJO), read her report.

**Complainant**

Robert Lauzon stated the dog was tethered on a suitable rope in the back yard. While the dog was supposed to be on confinement, the dog was out repeatedly. They located the owner of the apartment building. The owner was able to contact the owner of the dog. Mr. Perez never showed any remorse for what happened to the dog, never made any attempt to ask how their dog is doing, any restitution or the injuries to the dog. The dog is a danger to the neighborhood, and there is a signed petition by the neighbors; they all have concerns about that the dog continuing to be in the area. The owner of the dog has done nothing to change the behavior.

Tan Nugyen says, he saw his dog in his back yard. Before they could move the dog attacked their larger male dog. The police arrived and called the ambulance for their dog, they had to drive to West Hartford, Connecticut to get emergency care for their dog. The dog was taken to the VCA Animal Hospital in West Hartford, CT, the dog stayed overnight.

**Respondent**

Ruvelson Perez stated the leash was not a leash or a rope, it was a lighting leash. Mr. Perez admitted his dog broke off the lighting leash and to the injuries to Mr. Lauzon dog. He takes

full responsibility for his dog attacking the other dog. He has photo that his dog also sustained injuries.

**Rebuttal**

Mr. Lauzon asked if the dog was licensed.

Officer Robichaud said no.

Mr. Lauzon said the dog is tied behind house for hours at a time.

Mr. Perez stated that his dog is on a leash in the back yard, and his dog has injuries as well if the board want to see it.

**Board Member Edwards made a motion to deem the dog Dangerous the motion was seconded by Board Member Fleming.**

**Roll call votes on the motion**

Board Member Johns		absent
Board Member Edwards	Yes	
Board Member Fleming	Yes	
Board Member Landry	Yes	
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes	

Motion passed by roll call votes 4-0

The board voted to deem the dog **Dangerous** by roll call votes.

**The Advisory and Hearing Committee has imposed the following conditions on the animal:**

1. That the dog be humanely restrained.
2. That whenever the dog is removed from the premises of the owner, the dog shall be securely and humanely muzzled and restrained with a leash having a minimum tensile strength of 300 pounds and not exceeding three feet in length.

Hearing Committee recommended the dog owner speak with the property owner, in regards to installing a kennel at the property. As defined in section 110, section (B)-9 of the Code of the City of Springfield Ordinance.

**Roll call votes on the conditions**

Board Member Johns		absent
Board Member Edwards	Yes	
Board Member Fleming	Yes	
Board Member Landry	Yes	
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes	

conditions passed by roll call votes 4-0

**4. Dangerous Dog Hearing Two (2) Dogs at 373 Orange St Owned by Tapocio Maldonado**

**COMMENTS - Current Meeting:**

Read and continued to next hearing without discussion.

**5. Nuisance Dog Hearing for a Dog Named Mia at 64 California Ave Owned by Peter Pallucci**

**COMMENTS - Current Meeting:**

Read and Officer Renee Robichaud from Thomas J. O'Connor (TJO) read her report.

**Complainant**

Ernie Toussaint says since she filed the complaint, things has gotten better.

**Respondent**

Peter Pallucci asked if they want him to tie up the dog and anything the board wants him to do he will do.

**Board Member Edwards made a motion to continue to next hearing the motion was seconded by Board Member Fleming.**

**Roll call votes on the motion**

Board Member Johns		absent
Board Member Edwards	Yes	
Board Member Fleming	Yes	
Board Member Landry	Yes	
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes	

Motion passed by roll call votes 4-0

**6. Dangerous Dog Hearing for Dog Named Abby at 192 Harkness Ave Owned by Mark Tourangeau**

**COMMENTS - Current Meeting:**

Read and Officer Renee Robichaud from Thomas J. O'Connor read their report.

**Complainant**

Jolene Alexander stated the dog got on top of the pit bull. It's healed, other than the vet bill she has, and her concerns for the safety of individuals. There's a dog that is know to bite not just animals, but humans that is roaming the neighborhood. That is concerning.

**Respondent**

Mark Tourangeau did not appear.

**Board Member Edwards made a motion to deem the dog Dangerous the motion was seconded by Board Member Fleming.**

**Roll call votes on the motion**

Board Member Johns		absent
Board Member Edwards	Yes	
Board Member Fleming	Yes	
Board Member Landry	Yes	
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes	

Motion passed by roll call votes 4-0

The board voted to deem the dog **Dangerous** by roll call votes.

**The Advisory and Hearing Committee has imposed the following condition on the animal:**

1.The dog to be impounded. As defined in Chapter 110, Section 10-B-7 of the Code of the City of Springfield Ordinance

**Roll call votes on the conditions**

Board Member Johns		absent
Board Member Edwards	Yes	
Board Member Fleming	Yes	
Board Member Landry	Yes	
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes	

condition passed by roll call votes 4-0

**7. Nuisance Dog Hearing for Two (2) Dogs at 98 Garnet St Owned by Gary Forney**

**COMMENTS - Current Meeting:**

Read and continued to next hearing without discussion.

**I. Non-Compliance**

**1. Nuisance Dog Hearing for Dogs Named Ace & Kodi at 27 Hickory St Owned by Franceska Garcia**

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Read and continued to next hearing without discussion.

**2. Dangerous Dog Hearing for Dog Named Scooby at 460 Canon Cir Owned by Trista Lozada**

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Read and continued to next hearing without discussion.

**II. Revisit from Last Hearing**

**1. Dangerous Dog Hearing for Five (5) Dogs at 101 Quincy St Owned by Kimberly Toote - Follow Up to Make Sure Conditions Are in Place.**

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Read and Officer Renee Robichaud from Thomas J. O'Connor (TJO), read her report.

**Complainant**

Shadel Reid appeared and stated that Ms. Toote did not install the fence. Her son is not comfortable going outside. Ms. Reid presented pictures to the board that she took today.

Board Landry asked if the board can tell by the picture if the fence is secured.

Officer Robichaud said the dogs can walk through the fence.

**Respondent**

Kimberly Toote did not appear.

**Board Member Edwards made a motion to deem the dogs Dangerous the motion was seconded by Board Member Fleming.**

**Roll call votes on the motion**

Board Member Johns		absent
Board Member Edwards	Yes	
Board Member Fleming	Yes	
Board Member Landry	Yes	
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes	

Motion passed by roll call votes 4-0

The board voted to deem the dog **Dangerous** by roll call votes.

**The Advisory and Hearing Committee has imposed the following conditions on the animal:**

- 1. The dogs to be impounded. As defined in Chapter 110, Section 10-B-7 of the Code of the City of Springfield Ordinance.

**Roll call votes on the conditions**

Board Member Johns		absent
Board Member Edwards	Yes	
Board Member Fleming	Yes	
Board Member Landry	Yes	
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes	

condition passed by roll call votes 4-0

**III. Rescheduled**

**1. Dangerous Dog Hearing for Two Dogs Named Chokie and Luna at 49 Girard Ave Owned by Jose Sanchez**

**COMMENTS - Current Meeting:**

Read and Officer Renee Robichaud from Thomas J. O'Connor (TJO) stated, this is the second hearing requested by Abigail Martinez, the complainant and she did not appear for the hearings.

**Complainant**

Abigail Martinez did not appear.

**Respondent**

Jose Sanchez appeared

**Board Member Edwards made a motion to Dismiss the motion was seconded by Board Member Fleming.**

**Roll call votes on the motion**

Board Member Johns		absent
Board Member Edwards	Yes	
Board Member Fleming	Yes	
Board Member Landry	Yes	
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes	

Motion passed by roll call votes 4-0

The board voted to **Dismiss** by roll call votes.