



Animal Control

Regular

<http://www.springfieldcityhall.com>

~ Minutes ~

City Clerk

Thursday, August 15, 2024

10:00 AM

Hybrid Room 205

Call to Order

10:00 AM Meeting called to order on August 15, 2024 at Hybrid Room 205, City Hall, Springfield, MA.

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

Approval of Minutes

1. July 18 Minutes

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

Read.

Board Member Landry made a motion to amend the July 18th 2024 minutes votes from a yes vote to no for Board Member Landry the motion was seconded by Board Member Nelson Campbell.

Roll call votes on the motion

Board Member Johns	Yes
Board Member Edwards	Yes
Board Member Rosemond	Yes
Board Member Landry	yes
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes

Motion passed by roll call votes 5-0

The board voted to amendment the minutes by roll call votes.

Items Continued from July Meeting

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

Complainant

Paula Starnes did not appear.

Respondent

Franceska Santana translator stated the dog belongs to Franceska daughter. The dog was visiting her, the dog lives in Puerto Rico with her daughter. Ms. Santana has apologized.

Board Member Landry made a motion to dismiss the motion was seconded by Board Member Edwards.

Roll call votes on the motion

Board Member Johns	Yes
Board Member Edwards	Yes
Board Member Rosemond	Yes
Board Member Landry	yes
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes

Motion passed by roll call votes 5-0

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

3. **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 did not appear.

Respondent

Peter Gallucci stated he was going to register the dog today August 15th 2024.

Board Member Landry made a motion to dismiss the motion was seconded by Board Member Edwards.

Roll call votes on the motion

Board Member Johns	Yes
Board Member Edwards	Yes
Board Member Rosemond	Yes
Board Member Landry	yes
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes

Motion passed by roll call votes 5-0

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

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

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

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

Complainant

Michael Tuitt, Jr did not appear.

Respondent

Tapocio Maldonado did not appear.

Board Member Landry made a motion to dismiss the motion was seconded by Board Member Edwards.

Roll call votes on the motion

Board Member Johns	Yes
Board Member Edwards	Yes
Board Member Rosemond	Yes
Board Member Landry	yes
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes

Motion passed by roll call votes 5-0

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

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

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

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

Complainant

Michelle Bennett stated it's a long standing habit of irresponsible behavior of the owner. The dog behavior is becoming more and more aggressive as he charges. The dog would come out of no where. This is a eighty five (85) pound dog running at full gallop, with the teeth bared, barking and growling and coming much too close for comfort. It's frightening for her and there's literally nothing she can do with the situation. She asking the committee to limit the privileges to keep everyone safe. It's irresponsible for any one to have their dogs running free in that area. This is a conservation area, there are at least two (2) different kind of wild species, turtles, wild turkeys, deers and coyotes.

Respondent

Gary Forney stated the dogs belong to his daughter and admitted the dogs were off leash.

Rebuttal

Ms. Bennett said there are multiple incidences.

Officer Renee Robichaud asked Mr. Forney if the dogs were licensed.

Mr. Forney said yes

Board Member Edwards made a motion to deem the dogs a Nuisance the motion was seconded by Board Member Rosemond.

Roll call votes on the motion

Board Member Johns	Yes
Board Member Edwards	Yes
Board Member Rosemond	Yes
Board Member Landry	yes
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes

Motion passed by roll call votes 5-0

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

- 1.The dogs must be humanely restrained while walked, in accordance with Chapter 110, Section 5, subsection A of the Code of the City of Springfield Ordinance.

Roll call votes on the condition

Board Member Johns	Yes
Board Member Edwards	Yes
Board Member Rosemond	Yes
Board Member Landry	yes
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes

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

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

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

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

Complainant

Thomas J. O'Connor.

Respondent

Franceska Garcia did not appear.

Board Member Edwards made a motion to deem the dogs a Nuisance the motion was seconded by Board Member Rosemond.

Roll call votes on the motion

Board Member Johns	Yes
Board Member Edwards	Yes
Board Member Rosemond	Yes
Board Member Landry	yes
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes

Motion passed by roll call votes 5-0

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

1. That the dog be confined to the premises of the owner of the dogs; Provided, however, that “confined” shall mean securely confined indoors and confined when outdoors in a securely enclosed and locked pen or dog run area upon the premises of the owner; Provided however, that such confinement shall comply with Chapter 110 section 10-B-8 of the Code of the City Ordinance.

Roll call votes on the condition

Board Member Johns	Yes
Board Member Edwards	Yes
Board Member Rosemond	Yes
Board Member Landry	yes
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes

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

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

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

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

Complainant

Thomas J. O'Connor

Respondent

Trista Lozada did not appear.

Board Member Landry made a motion to dismiss the motion was seconded by Board Member Edwards.

Roll call votes on the motion

Board Member Johns	Yes
Board Member Edwards	Yes
Board Member Rosemond	Yes
Board Member Landry	yes
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes

Motion passed by roll call votes 5-0

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

Hearings

8. Dangerous Dog Hearing for Dog Named Cuban at 67 Bowles Park Owned by Mya Gaskins

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

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

Complainant

Adrienne Cuffie stated she was not the one walking the dog when the attack happened. Glen Edwards stated he was walking his dog when Cuban came out of no where. then all of a sudden he grabbed his dog. Ms.Cuffie stated Zoey was like her child.

Respondent

Mya Gaskins stated her and Ms. Cuffie had talked. She recently installed a six foot wooden fence around her entire yard. She walked Cuban from the front to the back yard on a leash. Cuban has not been off her property since, she's trying every steps to rehabilitate, fix the incidences that was occurred. The incidences were a year a part. She has been making steps and efforts to fix the situation on their end and for herself, so she can keep her dog in her house and to move forward in the safest and best way possible.

Rebuttal

none.

Board Member Edwards made a motion to deem the dogs a Nuisance the motion was seconded by Board Member Rosemond.

Roll call votes on the motion

Board Member Johns	Yes
Board Member Edwards	Yes
Board Member Rosemond	Yes
Board Member Landry	yes
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes

Motion passed by roll call votes 5-0

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

1. The dog must be kept in a secured enclosure as defined in Chapter 110, Section 10-B-5 of the Code of the City of Springfield Ordinance.
2. The dog must be leashed and muzzled when walked off the property in accordance with Chapter 110, Section 10-B-3 of the Code of the City of Springfield Ordinance.
3. That the owner or keeper of the dog provide proof of insurance in an amount not less than \$100,000 insuring the owner or keeper against any claim, loss, damage or injury to persons, domestic animals or property resulting from the acts, whether intentional or unintentional, of the dog or proof that reasonable efforts were made to obtain such insurance if a policy has not been issued; Provided, however, that if a policy of insurance has been issued, the owner or keeper shall produce such policy upon request of the hearing authority or a justice of the district court; and provided further, that if a policy has not been issued the owner or keeper shall produce proof of efforts to obtain such

insurance provided to Thomas J. O'Connor within twenty-one (21) days.

- 4. A dangerous dog license shall be acquired annually at a fee of one hundred dollars (\$100). As defined in Chapter 110-2-B-10-C of the Code of the City of Springfield Ordinance.

Roll call votes on the condition

Board Member Johns	Yes
Board Member Edwards	Yes
Board Member Rosemond	Yes
Board Member Landry	yes
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes

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

9. Nuisances Dog Hearing for Dog Named Coco at 45 Redfern Dr Owned by Alexander Andino

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

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

Complainant

Jamie Rankins did not appear.

Respondent

Alexander Andino stated he built a new cage and his dog bites on it. Mr. Andino admitted to his dog getting out.

Board Member Edwards made a motion to deem the dogs a Nuisance the motion was seconded by Board Member Rosemond.

Roll call votes on the motion

Board Member Johns	Yes
Board Member Edwards	Yes
Board Member Rosemond	Yes
Board Member Landry	yes
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes

Motion passed by roll call votes 5-0

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

1. The dog must be kept in a secured enclosure, as defined in Chapter 110, Section 10-B-5 of the Code of the City of Springfield Ordinance.
2. Notify Thomas J. O'Connor (TJO) when the kennel is completed for a kennel inspection.
The dog must be leashed when not in the home or secured kennel, in accordance with Chapter 110, Section 5-A of the Code of the City of Springfield Ordinance

Roll call votes on the condition

Board Member Johns	Yes
Board Member Edwards	Yes
Board Member Rosemond	Yes
Board Member Landry	yes
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes

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

10. Dangerous Dog Hearing for Dog Named Charlie at 66 Leyfred Ter Owned by Abdul Kabba

COMMENTS - Current Meeting:

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

Complainant

Joshua and Heath Hicks did not appear.

Respondent

Abdul Kabba said his dog is a friendly dog. When his dog gets out, they go to the open lot yard where he walks his dog. The incident that happened, the Police and Animal Control came. He was there and nothing happened to none of the human beings. The whole neighborhood knows they are friendly dogs. The new tenants are suing him and their dog barks at his dogs all the time.

Board Member Landry asked Mr. Kabba how are the dogs getting out.

Mr. Kabba said they are very athletic dogs, they scaled back and get over the six (6) foot fence. They are very smart dogs, they can hold the door knob, open and closed the door. The dogs came from Africa, they don't bother anyone, they are not aggressive and are very low temperament.

Officer Robichaud asked Mr. Kabba if he owns the property.

Mr. Kabba said he's the manage of the property.

Officer Robichaud asked Mr. Kabba if the owner will allow him to put a secure enclosure on the property.

Mr. Kabba said it's already done and he's building a platform for the kennel. He's going to build a gabion with rocks and cement, the whole yard will be fenced in.

Board Member Edwards made a motion to deem the dogs a Nuisance the motion was seconded by Board Member Rosemond.

Roll call votes on the motion

Board Member Johns	Yes
Board Member Edwards	Yes
Board Member Rosemond	Yes
Board Member Landry	yes
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes

Motion passed by roll call votes 5-0

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

1. The dogs must be kept in a secured enclosure as defined in Chapter 110, Section 10-B-5 of the Code of the City of Springfield Ordinance.
2. The dogs must be leashed and muzzled when off the property in accordance with Chapter 110, Section 10-B-3 of the Code of the City of Springfield Ordinance.
3. Provide proof of existing liability insurance for the dogs to Thomas J. O'Connor (TJO).

Roll call votes on the condition

Board Member Johns	Yes
Board Member Edwards	Yes
Board Member Rosemond	Yes
Board Member Landry	yes
Board Member Nelson Campbell	Yes

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