

BRIDPORT DOG POLICY

Section 1. Definitions:

“Dog” means any member of the canine species. “Dog” shall also include “wolf-hybrids”.

“Dog Pound” means a place designated by the Selectboard where dogs may be impounded (held). Unless otherwise decided by the Selectboard, each place of residence of the Dog Warden and any assistant Dog Warden shall constitute a Dog Pound.

“Dog Warden” means a person appointed by the Selectboard to fill such position or office. “Dog Warden” is also known as the animal control officer for dogs. The Selectboard may appoint one or more assistant Dog Wardens. Any such Dog Warden is to be appointed annually and to serve until terminated, reappointed or their successor is appointed by the Selectboard.

Section 2. Dog Ordinance:

On December 9th, 2019, the Selectboard adopted an ORDINANCE REGULATING DOGS AND WOLF-HYBRIDS (the “Dog Ordinance”). The Selectboard confirms that the Dog Warden and any assistant Dog Warden are among those who qualify as an Enforcement Officer under the Dog Ordinance. Unless otherwise decided by the Selectboard, any civil penalty (full or waiver penalties) under SECTION 7 of the Dog Ordinance for a violation of the Dog Ordinance shall be enforced in the Vermont Judicial Bureau, if possible to do so, and otherwise in the Addison Unit of the Superior Court.

Section 3. Dog Impoundment Fees:

Impoundment fees may include all charges related to the impoundment of a dog, except the civil penalties under SECTION 7 of the Dog Ordinance. Impoundment fees shall be paid to the Town by the dog owner or by a person for the dog owner before a dog is released from impoundment. In recognition of such Town costs as dog enforcement and for food, water and a place to be held, impoundment fees as determined by the Selectboard from time to time shall include the following:

an impoundment fee of \$ 50.00 for any portion of the first calendar day of impoundment; and

an impoundment fee of \$ 20.00 for each following whole or fraction of a calendar day a dog is impounded.

Impoundment fees may include veterinary and other expenses incurred in the care of a dog.

Section 4. Homeward Bound as Addison County's Humane Society:

Unless otherwise decided by the Selectboard, if the Town at the time has any contract with Homeward Bound or any successor of it for accepting dogs from the Town; any impoundment fees incurred under Section 3 above for the impounding of a dog by any Dog Warden within the Town may, under such contract, become payable to Homeward Bound for its forwarding to the Town for a dog placed with Homeward Bound by any Dog Warden. In such case, at a minimum the impoundment fee for any portion of the first calendar day of impoundment by any Dog Warden shall be so incurred.

In addition, any charge to the Town under any such contract for a dog shall be an impoundment fee due to the Town by the owner of the dog.

This Policy shall become effective on February 7, 2020.

Adopted this 13th day of January, 2020, by the Town of Bridport Selectboard










