Animal Licensing

Excerpt from City of Fort Atkinson Code of Ordinances

Sec. 10-41. - Licensing of dogs and cats.

(a)Any person owning, keeping, harboring or having custody of any dog or cat over five months of age within the city must obtain a license as provided in this article.

(b)The licensing period shall begin with January 1 and shall run for one year. The annual fee schedule provided by the state, the county, and the city shall be adopted.

(c)Written application for licenses shall be made to the licensing authority, which shall include the name and address of the applicant, description of the dog or cat, and the appropriate fee and rabies certificate issued by a licensed veterinarian or antirabies clinic. Proof of spaying or neutering may be requested by the licensing authority.

(d)Application for a license must be made within 30 days after obtaining a dog or cat over five months of age, except that this requirement will not apply to a nonresident keeping a dog or cat within the city for no longer than 30 days.

(e)License fees shall not be required for seeing eye dogs.

(f)Upon acceptance of the license application and fee, the licensing authority shall issue a durable tag stamped with an identifying number and the year of issuance. Tags should be designed so that they may be conveniently fastened or riveted to the dog's or cat's collar or harness.

(g)Dogs and cats must wear identification tags or collars at all times.

(h)The licensing authority shall maintain a record of the identifying numbers of tags issued and shall make this record available to the public.

(i)Persons who fail to obtain a license as required within the time period specified in this section will be subjected to a civil forfeiture.

(j)The parent or guardian of any minor claiming ownership of any dog or cat license shall be deemed to be the owner of such animal and shall be charged for all penalties and fees imposed by this section.

(k)No person may use any license for any dog or cat other than the animal for which it was issued.