



**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE TOWN OF MOUNT GILEAD CODE OF ORDINANCES
CHAPTER 91: ANIMALS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING A LEASH LAW
AND UPDATING ANIMAL CRUELTY REGULATIONS**

WHEREAS, the health and safety of the citizens and visitors of Mount Gilead are of paramount importance to the Mount Gilead Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the Mount Gilead Board of Commissioners recognizes the importance of ensuring a safe, healthy and compassionate community for both citizens and animals; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Statutes §160A-186 establishes that municipalities may by ordinance regulate, restrict, or prohibit the keeping, running, or going at large of any domestic animals, including dogs and cats; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Mount Gilead has adopted an animal regulation ordinance and may amend it from time to time; and

WHEREAS, the Mount Gilead Board of Commissioners recognizes the need to encourage humane and responsible pet ownership; and

WHEREAS, the Mount Gilead Board of Commissioners has determined that the control of animals and the prevention of cruelty to animals are necessary to provide for the public health, safety and welfare.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN OF MOUNT GILEAD BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, THAT the Town of Mount Gilead Code of Ordinances Chapter 91 Animals is amended with the creation of Section §91.19 Dogs Running at Large to read as follows:

§91.19 Dogs Running at Large

All dogs within the corporate limits of the town shall be kept under restraint or under the control of their owner/custodian or of a handler at all times. This excludes dogs still under their owner/custodian or of a handler's control on their own property. Unattended dogs must be properly enclosed in a suitable pen.

Any dog found within the corporate limits of the town not under the restraint of its owner/custodian or of a handler shall be deemed to be running at large and may be restrained or impounded by a County Animal Control Officer or other official as designated by the Town Manager.

It shall be unlawful for any owner/custodian or any other person having possession, charge, custody or control of any dog to take the dog into or allow the dog to enter any public area, right-of-way or park without the dog being at all times under the restraint of a leash.

Any owner, keeper or person in charge of possession and control of any such dog who violates the provision of this section shall be subject to the penalties in §91.99.

AND THAT, Chapter 91 be further amended with the creation of Section §91.20 Removal of Excrement Required to read as follows:

§91.20 Removal of Excrement Required

No owner, keeper, or person in charge of the possession and/or control of any dog shall cause or allow the dog to defecate or otherwise commit any nuisance on any street, sidewalk, park, public right-of-way, or other publicly owned area unless the excrement is immediately removed by said owner, keeper, or person in charge of the dog and deposited in an appropriate waste container.

Any owner, keeper, or person in charge of the possession and/or control of any dog who violates the provisions of this section, shall be subject to the penalties in §91.99.

AND THAT, Section §91.02 Cruelty to Animals of Chapter 91 is amended by adding the following language immediately after the existing text:


It is unlawful for the owner of any animal to fail to:

- (A) Provide at suitable intervals, and at least once every 24 hours, a quantity of wholesome foodstuff suitable for the species' physical condition and age, and sufficient to maintain an adequate level of nutrition for the animal;
- (B) Provide continuous access to a supply of clean, fresh, potable water, either free-flowing or in a receptacle;
- (C) Provide proper enclosure for the animal as defined in this chapter to also include suitable cover from the sun and inclement conditions;
- (D) Provide veterinarian care and medical treatment for debilitating injuries, parasites and disease sufficient to maintain the animal in good health and minimize suffering; and
- (E) Shelter or enclose an animal in any place that does not provide adequate drainage.

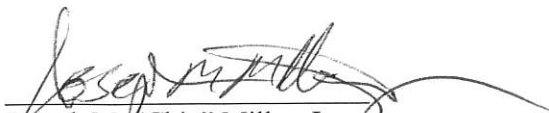
Any owner, keeper, or person in charge of the possession and/or control of any dog who violates the provisions of this section, shall be subject to the penalties in §91.99.

AND THAT, this Ordinance shall take effect on the 1 day of MAY, 2021.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED on this, the 2nd day of March, 2021.



Amy C. Roberts, NCCMC
Town Clerk



Joseph M. "Chip" Miller, Jr.
Mayor

