

Town of Greenville

PUBLIC HEARING

RE: PROPOSED DOG LAW

August 21st, 2023 6:30pm

A public hearing was held by the Town Board of the Town of Greenville on August 21, 2023 at 6:30pm at Pioneer Hall for members of the public to be heard regarding the proposed Local Law #2 of 2023: Licensing, Regulating and Controlling the Activity of Dogs in the Town of Greenville.

Four Board members were present, Councilman Richards was absent. Attorney Tal Rappleyea was present via teleconference. Event Planner/Coordinator Samantha Jones, Maintenance Supervisor Tim Fitzgerald and Code Enforcement Officer Mark Overbaugh were present, along with 11 in person guests.

Supervisor Macko explained that the purpose of this meeting was to bring the local law into compliance with NYS Ag & Markets Dog laws. He also reminded the public that copies of the draft local law #2 of 2023 have been available to review for about two months.

Questions/Comments/Remarks from the public:

Sheila Dugan – Explained that her dog was killed by a neighbor's dogs and the neighbors were not held accountable/did not contribute towards to the vet bills. Attorney Tal Rappleyea to reach out to her to help find resolution.

Ken Kellerman – Asked about replacement tags for registered dogs. Town Clerk-Collector Jessica Lewis to reach out to him. Mr. Kellerman also mentioned that there was not a very clear distinction of an aggressive dog.

Will Bardel – Inquired about off-leash working dogs on private property. Attorney Tal Rappleyea stated that on private property there is no leash obligation.

Anita Zibura – Asked if there is a second chance given to vicious/dangerous dogs. Attorney Rappleyea responded that unless the dog is 'really egregious' they would be given another chance—this would be at the discretion of the DCO.

Margaret Donahue – Asked the Board if the Town would be changing to an Animal Control Officer instead of a Dog Control Officer. Supervisor Macko stated the Town would not be switching to an ACO.

Greg Stewart – Suggested making the law less vague and to define habitual barking/implement a time limit to barking deeming it habitual. Attorney Rappleyea informed Mr. Stewart that this law is drafted to match what NYS Ag & Markets suggests towns implement.

Supervisor Macko called upon the public three times for any further questions/comment/concerns.

Councilman Bear motioned, seconded by Councilman VonAtzingen to suspend this public hearing and to schedule another public hearing to resume these efforts on September 18th, 2023 at 6:30pm. Carried 4 ayes

This hearing was adjourned at 7:04pm.

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Jessica K. Lewis, Town Clerk-Collector

Supervisor Macko

Councilman Bear

Councilman Von Atzingen

Councilman Bensen