

**TOOELE CITY CORPORATION**

**ORDINANCE 2026-06**

**AN ORDINANCE OF TOOELE CITY AMENDING TOOELE CITY CODE SECTION 6-7-4 REGARDING THE IMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF FEES FOR IMPOUNDED ANIMALS.**

WHEREAS, Utah Constitution, Article XI, Section 5 directly confers upon Utah's charter cities, including Tooele City, "the authority to exercise all powers relating to municipal affairs, and to adopt and enforce within its limits, local police, sanitary and similar regulations not in conflict with the general law"; and,

WHEREAS, UCA Section 10-8-84 enables Tooele City to "pass all ordinances and rules, and make all regulations . . . as are necessary and proper to provide for the safety and preserve the health, and promote the prosperity, improve the morals, peace and good order, comfort, and convenience of the city and its inhabitants, and for the protection of property in the city"; and,

WHEREAS, Tooele City Code Title 6 governs the Animal Control Division and the Animal Shelter, and Tooele City Code §6-7-4 specifically regulates the imposition and collection of fees in connection with animals that have been impounded; and,

WHEREAS, City Administration recommends amending Tooele City Code §6-7-4 as shown in Exhibit A, in order to clarify and update notice and collection procedures:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOOELE CITY COUNCIL that the amendments to Tooele City Code §6-7-4 as shown in Exhibit A are hereby enacted.

This Ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of the peace, health, safety, and welfare of Tooele City and its residents and businesses and shall become effective upon passage, without further publication, by authority of the Tooele City Charter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Ordinance is passed by the Tooele City Council this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026.

TOOELE CITY COUNCIL

(For)

(Against)

*[Handwritten signature]*

*Melodi Stokes*

*Justin Brady*

*Clayton Ham*

*Dee McCall*

ABSTAINING: \_\_\_\_\_

MAYOR OF TOOELE CITY

(Approved)

(Disapproved)

*[Handwritten signature]*

ATTEST:

*Shilo Baker*

Shilo Baker, City Recorder

SEAL



Approved as to Form:

*[Handwritten signature]*

Matthew C. Johnson, City Attorney

## Exhibit A

Proposed Amendments to  
Tooele City Code §6-7-4

## CHAPTER 7. IMPOUNDING

### 6-7-1. Animals to be impounded.

### 6-7-2. Case report.

### 6-7-3. Disposition of impounded animals.

### 6-7-4. Fees.

#### 6-7-1. Animals to be impounded.

(1) Officers have authority to place dogs and cats taken into custody into an animal shelter.

(2) The following dogs and cats may be taken into custody and impounded without the filing of a complaint:

(a) any animal being kept contrary to Tooele City Code Title 6;

(b) any animal creating a nuisance;

(c) any animal required to be licensed which is not licensed. An animal not wearing a tag shall be presumed to be unlicensed;

(d) any sick or injured animal whose owner cannot be located after reasonable effort;

(e) any lost, strayed, or abandoned animal;

(f) any animal required to be vaccinated for rabies which is not so vaccinated;

(g) any animal to be held for quarantine;

(h) any animal at large;

(i) any animal that has attacked a person or domestic animal; and,

(j) any animal that has bitten a person or domestic animal.

(3) The following dogs and cats shall be immediately taken into custody and impounded:

(a) any animal that has bitten a person or a domestic animal without provocation;

(b) any animal that has been determined to be dangerous pursuant to Section 6-5b-6; and,

(c) any animal previously designated as a potentially dangerous animal that is not being kept under the conditions imposed pursuant to Sections 6-5b-6 or 6-5b-7.

(Ord. 2023-32, 08-03-2023) (Ord. 2017-07, 03-15-2017)  
(Ord. 2003-28, 12-17-2003) (Ord. 1994-02, 01-11-1994)

#### 6-7-2. Case report.

Officers shall complete case reports on all impounded animals, which reports shall include, as applicable:

(1) a detailed description of the animal, including tag number, if present;

(2) the reason for and the date of impound;

(3) the location of the pickup;

(4) the name of the officer picking up the animal;

(5) the name and address of any person relinquishing an animal to the officer or to the animal shelter;

(6) the name and address of the redeemer or purchaser;

(7) all expenses accruing during impoundment;

(8) all fees received; and,

(9) the manner and date of disposal.

(Ord. 2017-07, 03-15-2017) (Ord. 2003-28, 12-17-2003)  
(Ord. 1994-02, 01-11-1994)

#### 6-7-3. Disposition of impounded dogs and cats.

(1) Except as otherwise provided in Title 6 (i.e., for dangerous or quarantined animals), any impounded dog or cat may be redeemed from the Shelter by its owner during the impound period upon payment of the applicable fees.

(2) During impound, reasonable efforts shall be made to identify the animal's owner and give such owner notification of the impoundment. Notice shall be deemed given when contact is made by telephone or in person, or when a written message is left at the last known address of the registered owner.

(3) The owner of an impounded animal must redeem the animal within 5 business days after notification. Failure to so redeem the animal shall indicate that the animal is abandoned and subject the animal to immediate adoption, rescue, humane destruction, or other disposition.

(4) Each impounded, unredeemed animal shall be kept a minimum of 5 business days after impound, except as otherwise provided in this Title 6.

(5) Following impound, animals which are not redeemed, except for those animals quarantined under the provisions of Section 6-6-7, held under the provisions of Section 6-5b-5, or confined by court order, may be adopted out, delivered to a rescue organization, humanely destroyed, or otherwise disposed of. The Division shall not sell or adopt out any animal that has not been spayed or neutered.

(6) Quarantined animals not redeemed by their owner within 5 business days after the quarantine is ended shall be subject to immediate adoption, rescue, humane destruction, or other disposition.

(7) Any animal voluntarily relinquished or surrendered by its owner to the Division or the Shelter may be immediately adopted out, delivered to a rescue organization, humanely destroyed, or otherwise disposed of.

(8) At the discretion of a Division or Shelter supervisor, any impounded animal having or suspected of having a serious physical injury or a contagious disease requiring medical attention may be released to the care of a veterinarian, with the consent of the owner. The owner shall be responsible for all costs and fees.

(9) When, in the judgment of a Division or Shelter supervisor or officer, an impounded animal must be destroyed for humane reasons or to protect the public from imminent danger to persons or property, the animal may be destroyed without regard to any time limitations otherwise established herein and without court order.

(Ord. 2023-32, 08-03-2023) (Ord. 2017-07, 03-15-2017)

(Ord. 2008-11, 11-05-2008) (Ord. 2003-28, 12-17-2003)

(Ord. 1994-02, 01-11-1994)

#### 6-7-4. Fees.

(1) Fees relating to impounded animals shall be contained in the Tooele City Fee Schedule.

(2) If the owner of an impounded animal is identified, then the owner shall at the time of the disposition or redemption of the animal be given notice of the incurred costs and fees. Incurred costs and fees shall

include all applicable impounding, boarding, veterinary, licensing, rabies vaccination, and other costs and fees reasonably related to the impoundment of the animal. Notice shall be deemed given when hand-delivered to the owner or sent by first-class U.S. mail to the last known address of the owner.

~~(32)~~ Except as otherwise provided in Title 6, the owner of an impounded animal, or the owner's agent, may redeem the animal before disposition, provided all ~~applicable impounding, boarding, veterinary, licensing, rabies vaccination, and other incurred costs and fees and costs~~ are first paid.

~~(43)~~ No ~~impound~~ fee shall be ~~charged~~ for:

(a) the impoundment of a suspected rabid animal if the reporting person complies with Chapter 6-6; or,

(b) the impoundment of an animal:

(i) not found to be either potentially dangerous or dangerous after a hearing under Chapter 6-5b; and,

(ii) regarding which criminal charges are declined.

~~(54)~~ Except as otherwise stated in this Section, the owner of an impounded animal is liable for all ~~impound, disposition, and other incurred costs and fees under this Chapter. ; which if not voluntarily paid within 30 days of the notice of incurred costs and fees, the incurred costs and fees may be collected using any or all of the following:~~

(a) referral to the City Finance Department or a third-party collection agency;

(b) referral to the City Attorney's Office to initiate a civil action for recovery of the debt; and,

(c) any other legal remedy available under law ~~collected through a civil action or by being added to the owner's tax or utility bill.~~

(5) Persons may obtain any animal not timely redeemed by its owner for a fee per animal established in the Tooele City Fee Schedule, plus the costs of license, spay, neuter, and rabies vaccination, as applicable.

~~(Ord. 2026-16, \_\_ - - )~~(Ord. 2023-32, 08-03-2023)  
(Ord. 2017-07, 03-15-2017) (Ord. 2008-11, 11-05-2008)  
(Ord. 2003-28, 12-17-2003) (Ord. 1994-02, 01-11-1994)