

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-3000

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 55, ANIMAL PROTECTION AND CONTROL, OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF POLK CITY, IOWA

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Polk City, Iowa, deems it necessary and proper to amend Chapter 55 of the Code of Ordinances to match current standards and practices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POLK CITY, IOWA:

Section 1: That Section 55.01, Definitions, be and is hereby amended to include the underlined language:

7. “Community Cat Caregiver” is a person who, in accordance with and pursuant to a policy of TNR, as defined herein, provides care including food, shelter, and or medical rehab to a community cat, while not being considered the owner, harbinger, controller or other possessor of a community cat.

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16. “Trap-Neuter-Replace” (TNR) is the process of humanely trapping, sterilizing, vaccinating for rabies, ear tipping and returning a cat to their original location.

Section 2: That Section 55.23, Community Cats, be and is hereby amended to include the underlined language:

55.23 COMMUNITY CATS. The Community Cats initiative is to protect the residents of the City against the hazards brought about by the growing feral cat population and to provide a safe and humane process by which those health and safety hazards can be reduced through the use of trap-neuter-replace (TNR) program to reduce and effectively manage the feral cat population within the city limits.

1. A cat meeting the following requirements shall be allowed to roam freely and shall be known as a “Community Cat” if all of the following conditions of TNR are met by the community cat caregiver with the assistance of the City:

A. The cat has been scanned for microchips and no person owns the cat.

B. The cat has been assessed by a veterinarian and deemed healthy.

C. The cat has been spayed or neutered.

D. The cat has been vaccinated against rabies.

E. The cat has been "ear tipped."

2. Cats caught or trapped within the city limits may be transported by the Polk County Animal Control to either the ARL or a veterinary clinic within Polk City during their regular business hours as part of the trap-neuter-replace program.

Section 3: All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 4: This ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Polk City, Iowa, this 27 day of February 2023.

Steve Karsjen
Steve Karsjen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jenny Coffin
Jenny Coffin, City Clerk

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