

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-09-06-03

An Ordinance of the Village of Vinton, Texas proscribing the feeding or providing water to abandoned, feral or stray cats except under special circumstances and providing a penalty for violation.

WHEREAS, abandoned, feral and/or stray cats create a nuisance by disturbing the peace of the community, trespassing onto private property, transmitting disease, causing harm and/or killing domestic animals and wildlife, damaging or destroying property and creating unsanitary conditions where they congregate; and

WHEREAS, providing food or water to an abandoned, feral and/or stray cats perpetuates the problem and makes it more difficult to eradicate; and

WHEREAS, the Village Council deems it necessary in order to preserve and protect the safety and welfare of the community to prohibit either feeding or providing water to such animals except under the circumstances specified herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF VINTON, TEXAS as follows:

Section 1. Definitions

For the purposes of this ordinance, the following terms shall have the meaning set forth in this section.

Abandoned Cat means a domesticated cat that an owner has forsaken entirely or neglected or refused to provide care and support.

Feral Cat means a cat that (i) is born in the wild or is the offspring of an owned or feral cat and is not socialized, (ii) is a formerly owned cat that has been abandoned and is no longer socialized.

Stray Cat means a cat that is regularly off the property of the owner, is not under the physical control and restraint of the owner, and is not regularly provided with food by its owner.

Section 2. Feeding or Providing Water to abandoned/feral/ stray cats is prohibited

It shall be unlawful for any person to feed or to provide water to any abandoned, feral or stray cat unless it is an attempt to capture that animal to transport, vaccinate, neuter or spay, and adopt or to eradicate the animal.

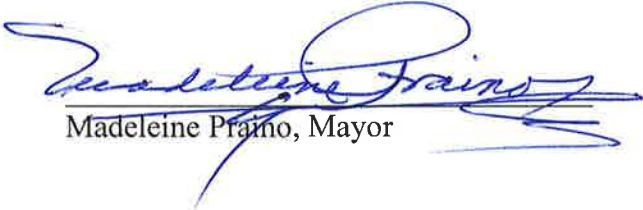
Section 3. Penalty

Any person who violates this Ordinance is guilty of a misdemeanor offense and shall be punished by a fine not to exceed two hundred dollars. Each animal involved will be considered a separate offense. Each such person shall be deemed guilty of a separate offense for each and every day or portion thereof during which a violation of this ordinance is committed or continued.

Section 4. Effective Date

This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and effect commencing September 1, 2016.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 6 day of September, 2016.


Madeleine Praino, Mayor

Attest:


Jessica Garza,
Village Administrator

Approved as to Form:


Shane A. English, Village Attorney