

2009-11 eg.

ROME TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION: ~~2009-11~~

A Motion made by Trustee Cooper, second by Bailey to PROHIBITING ANY RESIDENT OF OWNING OR HARBORING OF PIT BULL TERRIERS, AS DEFINED HEREIN, OR OTHER VICIOUS DOGS WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROME, COUNTY OF LAWRENCE:

WHEREAS, "pit bull terriers", as defined herein, are bred as fighting dogs because of certain vicious characteristics of the breed; and

WHEREAS, various types of dogs may display vicious dispositions; and

WHEREAS, the Rome Township Board of Trustees is of the opinion, that as a result of the particularly vicious characteristics of "pit bull terriers" and of other vicious dogs, it has become necessary for the protection of the public health, safety and welfare, to prohibit the owning or harboring of such dogs as provided herein;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Rome Township Board of Trustees, County of Lawrence, State of Ohio:

SECTION: No person shall own, keep, or harbor a pit bull terrier, as defined herein, or any other type of vicious dog within the limits of the Township of Rome, County of Lawrence.

SECTION TWO: "Pit bull terrier", as used herein, is hereby defined as any Staffordshire Bull Terrier or American Staffordshire Terrier breed of dog, or any mixed breed of dog which contains as an element of its breeding the breed of Staffordshire Bull Terrier or American Staffordshire Terrier as to be identifiable as partially of the breed of Staffordshire Bull Terrier or American Staffordshire Terrier by a qualified veterinarian duly licensed as such by the State of Ohio.

SECTION THREE: A "vicious" dog, as the term is used in this RESOLUTION means:

- a. Any dog with a propensity, tendency or disposition, to attack, to cause injury or to otherwise endanger the safety of human beings or other domestic animals; or
- b. Any dog which attacks a human being or another domestic animal one or more times without provocation.

SECTION FOUR: This RESOLUTION is a necessary control to eliminate the risk of attack by pit bulls, as defined herein, and other vicious dogs, on human beings in the Township of Rome, County of Lawrence, which have become a threat to the health, safety and welfare of the public in all areas of the Township of Rome, County of Lawrence; and the lack of intent to injure is eliminated as a defense to anyone violating this Resolution.

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SECTION FIVE: Whosoever violates the provisions of this Resolution shall be fined not more than \$1,000.00 or imprisoned no more than 60 days, or both. When any person is found guilty of a second offense of this RESOLUTION, such person may be imprisoned not more than 60 days and shall be fined \$1,000.00 which fine shall be mandatory, as shall not be suspended or remitted. In addition to the foregoing penalties, any person who is found guilty of violating this RESOLUTION shall pay all expenses, including shelter, food, veterinary expenses for identification or certification of the breed of the animal or boarding and veterinary expenses necessitated by the seizure of any dog for the protection of the public, and such other expenses as may be required for the elimination of any such dog.

SECTION SIX: That this RESOLUTION is hereby declared to be a measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the Township of Rome, County of Lawrence, and therefore, this RESOLUTION shall take effect Aug. 27, 09, thirty days following passage.

ROLL CALL: TRUSTEES BAILEY - ☒, COOPER - ☒, FULLER - ☒.

Passed this 28th day of July, 2009.

Charles Fuller
Charles Fuller, Trustee

Dean Cooper
Dean Cooper, Trustee

Mark Bailey
Mark Bailey, Trustee

This RESOLUTION:

Date Approved July 28, 2009

1st Reading Dec. 18, 2007

2nd Reading JAN. 22, 2008

3rd Reading Feb. 26, 2008