

*Enacted at Town Meeting March 20, 1972 and March 17 1986  
Amended June 30, 1997*

## **Brownville Dog Control Ordinance**

1. Dogs to be licensed in accordance with the statutes of the State of Maine.
2. Dogs not to be permitted to run at large.
3. Barking Dog(s) Ordinance.
4. Duties of Police Officers or Animal Control Officer having control of impounding.
5. Conditions of Release.
6. Penalties.
7. Vaccination.
8. Repeal of conflicting ordinances.
9. Separability of provisions.
10. Effective date.

### **1. Dogs to be licensed in accordance with the Statutes of the State of Maine**

No dog shall be kept within the limits of the Town of Brownville, County of Piscataquis, State of Maine, unless such dog shall have been licensed by its owner in accordance with the Statute of the State of Maine.

“Owner” shall be intended to mean any person or person, firm, association or corporation owning, keeping or harboring a dog.

### **2. Dogs not to be permitted to run at large.**

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog, licensed or unlicensed to permit such dog to run at large.

“At large” shall be intended to mean, off the premises of the owner, and not under the control of any person by means of a chain, rope or cord of sufficient strength to control the action of such dog (or such other personal presence and attention as will reasonably control the conduct of the dog).

### **3. Barking Dog Ordinance**

No owner or person having custody of any dog kept within the legal limits of the Town of Brownville shall allow such dog to unnecessarily annoy or disturb any person by continued or repeated barking or other loud or unusual noises.

Upon written complaint, signed and sworn to, any Police Officer or Animal Control Officer of the Town of Brownville or duly qualified State or County law enforcement official may investigate and give written notice to the owner or keeper of such dog that such annoyance or disturbance must cease. The warning shall be made a part of the complaint.

Thereafter, upon continuance of such annoyance or disturbance, such owner shall be guilty of a civil violation and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of \$25.00 for the first offense. Each additional conviction after the first conviction shall be punished by a fine of \$50.00. All fines so assessed shall be recovered for the use of the Town of Brownville through District Court.

#### **4. Duties of Police Officers or Animal Control Officer.**

Any Police Officer or ACO with the Town of Brownville, shall seize, impound or restrain any dog kept in violation of Section 1, and any dog running at large, and deliver such dog to the person who is duly authorized to have control of impounding. If the owner of such dog is known or can be located with reasonable diligence, then the person who has control of impounding shall personally notify the owner within three days of the receipt of such dog. If the owner of such dog is not known and cannot be located with reasonable diligence, then the person who has control of impounding shall post, within 48 hours of the time such person has taken such dog into his possession, written notice in 3 public places in the municipality, giving a description of the dog, stating where it is impounded and the conditions of its release. If the owner within seven days after receiving notice, or within seven days after notice has been posted, does not claim such dog, then the person having control of impounding shall dispose of the dog by sale or otherwise, in a proper and humane manner.

The person having control of impounding shall keep a record of every dog disposed of by sale or otherwise. Such record shall include a description which identifies the dog with reasonable certainty, the manner of disposing of the dog, and if the dog was transferred to another person, the name and address of the transferee. In addition, the transferee must sign a statement giving his/her name and address and the date of delivery or receipt of the dog.

#### **5. Conditions of release.**

Section 2, provides that the person giving notice shall with such notice give the conditions for the release of the impounded dog. Before such dog may be transferred shall show proof of vaccination within the previous year, such dog must be licensed in accordance with the statutes of the State of Maine, and the

transferee shall pay to the municipal Treasurer the sum of \$10.00, and the sum of \$8.00 per day for each day, or any part thereof the dog has been impounded.

## **6. Penalties**

Instead of seizing and impounding the dog, the Town of Brownville may prosecute the owner of any dog running at large, and any person upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than \$10.00 or more than \$50.00, plus the cost of prosecution.

## **7. Vaccination**

It shall be unlawful for the owner of any dog older than six months, less one day, to keep, maintain, or permit to run at large, such dog, unless it has been vaccinated by Veterinary surgeon with anti-rabies vaccine, within one year preceding the date on which dog is kept, maintained or permitted to run at large. Any person found violating this provision shall be fined not less than \$10.00 or more than \$50.00 plus costs of prosecution.

## **8. Repeal of conflicting Ordinances**

All existing ordinances of the Town of Brownville are hereby repealed insofar as they may be inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance.

## **9. Separability of provisions**

It is the intention of the municipality that each separate provision of this ordinance shall be deemed independent of all other provisions herein, and it is further the intention of the municipality that if any provision of this ordinance be declared invalid, all other provisions thereof shall remain valid and enforceable.

## **10. Effective Date.**

This ordinance shall be in full force and effect thirty days from its passage, approval and publication.