

**MINUTES
CITY OF ST. CLAIR SHORES ANIMAL ORDINANCE COMMITTEE
May 16, 2022**

Board Members Present: John D. Caron, City Council Liaison
Jason Allen, Chief of Police
Abrial J. Barrett, City Clerk

Also Present: Jeff Randazzo, Chief Animal Control Deputy
Frances V. Fields, Petitioner

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Mr. Caron. A quorum was present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Allen, seconded by Caron to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2021 meeting as presented.

Ayes: 2
Abstain: Barrett

3. FRANCES V. FIELDS - REQUESTING 4TH 5TH DOG

Background: Frances Fields came before the Committee to request an exception to the limitation on the number of dogs or cats as specified in Ordinance 35.055 Sec. 19-5.

She has five dogs, Dakota Blue, Loki, Luna, Sasha, and Nala which are all Huskies. Four of the dogs are the five-month-old puppies of her original Husky, Dakota Blue.

Letters of opposition were submitted by neighbors Marcia McCleary and Otha F. Craighead of 20224 Edmunton.

Ms. Fields said her dog had puppies and she would like to keep all four of them. There are 3 females and one male puppies. She got their rabies shots and has an appointment for their distemper and leptovaccines. Ms. Fields said the females will be spayed but not the male.

Darren Burt, 20201 Chalon, spoke in support of Ms. Fields.

Chief Randazzo discussed how huskies are working dogs, need to have a job and are escape artists. He said he appreciates her love for the dogs but will unfortunately say no. He talked about trainers and working on recall.

John Caron spoke on the need for exercise. He discussed types of activities, their need for an active lifestyle and how northern breeds need a lot of exercise. He commented on the pen and that they need room to run and be active. Mr. Caron expressed his concern on keeping up on walks and exercise with five dogs. He said he will also be against the variance. He noted that the puppies will take on the same traits if not exercised and stimulated.

Ms. Fields said the pen is just for them to do their business and they have full use of the yard.

Ms. Barret asked what the size of the back yard is.

Mr. Caron said it was a standard St. Clair Shores back yard.

Item #3 Continued

Chief Allen said he saw the dogs had use of the yard when he went by and noted that Dakota Blue's license expired in 2020.

The petitioner said she thought the license was still good and it was a three-year license.

There was discussion on a one-year license instead of three years because Dakota Blue's vaccine was only good until October of 2020 when the license was obtained. Petitioner will need to license all of the dogs she keeps.

Chief Randazzo suggested sterilizing all of the dogs. He told the petitioner to give Dakota Blue a job to do to keep her busy and mind stimulated.

Moved by Barrett, supported by Allen to deny the petitioner a variance to Animal Ordinance Chapter 6.5 Exception to Limitation on Number of Dogs or Cats.

Ayes: All – 3

4. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION - None

Motion by Barrett, supported by Allen to adjourn at 10:32 a.m.

Ayes: All – 3

Prepared by: Kendra Kroll
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by: Abrial J. Barrett
City Clerk