AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND REGULATIONS TO THE TOWN OF HUNTERSVILLE CODE OF ORDINANCES, TITLE IX, GENERAL REGULATIONS CHAPTER 94: ANIMALS, §94.41

Section 1. Be it ordained by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Huntersville that the Code of Ordinance is hereby amended, by amending the following:

§94.41 AT LARGE

It shall be unlawful for dogs and cats to be off the property of their owner or keeper and not under restraint, as defined in §94.03, of a competent person.

(1) <u>Restraint of Animals. It shall be unlawful for any person owning or having</u> possession, charge, custody or control of any animal, excluding cats, to keep such animal upon his or her own premises, or off the premises, unless such animal is under restraint as that term is defined in §94.03.

(2) <u>Tethering</u>. Domestic animals may not be tethered to a stationary object unless it is attended by a competent person and all of the conditions of the subparagraphs below (a. through k.) are followed:

- a. <u>A tether must be equipped with a swivel on both ends;</u>
- b. <u>A tether must be a minimum of ten feet (10') in length, and be made of either</u> metal chain or coated steel cable;
- c. Tethers must be attached to a buckle type collar or harness worn by the domestic animal and under no circumstances shall the tether be placed directly around the domestic animal's neck. Tethers are never to be used in conjunction with training collars such as a choke or pinch-style collars;
- d. The weight of the tether must not exceed ten percent (10%) of the total body weight of the domestic animal, but shall be of sufficient strength to prevent breakage;
- e. <u>The tether by design and placement must allow the domestic animal a reasonable</u> and unobstructed range of motion without the possibility of entanglement;
- f. The domestic animal must be four (4) months of age or older to be tethered;
- g. Only one (1) domestic animal may be attached to a single tether;
- h. <u>Pulley systems, running lines, and trolley systems may be used in conjunction</u> with a tether;
- i. Pulley systems, running lines or trolley systems shall be at least ten feet (10') in length, and no more than seven feet (7') above the ground;
- j. <u>The line of the pulley system, running line, or trolley system to which the tether is</u> attached shall be made of coated steel cable; and
- k. <u>No tether shall be affixed to a stationary object which allows a domestic animal to</u> <u>come within five feet (5') of any property line.</u>

(3) Any person issued a citation for violation of §94.41(2) shall have six (6) months from the time of the first citation in which to comply with the requirements of this subsection without incurring a penalty.

Penalty, see §94.99.

<u>§ 94.99 PENALTY.</u>

This chapter may be enforced by any or all of the following ways provided by law:

(A) Anyone violating this chapter, except §94.63 and 94.41(2), shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than \$500 or imprisoned for not more than 20 days for each offense. Pursuant to G.S. §106-405, anyone violating §94.63 shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor. The violator shall be fined not more than \$500 or imprisoned for not more than six months.

(B) A violation of this chapter, except §§94.20, 94.41, 94.42, 94.43, 94.44 and 94.63 shall result in the issuance of a citation subjecting the violator to a civil penalty in the amount of \$100.

(C) A violation of §§94.20, 94.41, 94.42, 94.43 and 94.44 shall result in the issuance of a citation subjecting the violator to a civil penalty in the amount of \$50 for each offense.

(D) A violation of §94.63 shall subject the violator to issuance of a citation with a civil penalty in the amount of \$200 for each offense.

(E) A citation remaining unpaid to the Town of Huntersville after 15 days from the date of issuance shall subject the violator to an additional civil penalty, which may be recovered by the town in a civil action. A violation that is a continuing violation shall subject the violator to separate citations for each day the violation continues.

Section 2. This Ordinance is effective upon adoption; however, enforcement of §94.41(2) of this Ordinance shall only begin six (6) months after approval to provide a transitional and educational period.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 201___.

TOWN OF HUNTERSVILLE

ATTEST:

Janet Pierson, Town Clerk (SEAL) John Aneralla, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Robert B. Blythe, Town Attorney