

ORDINANCE NO. 401

**AN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO THE KEEPING OF
PIT BULL, ROTTWEILER AND DOBERMAN PINSCHER DOGS
WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF ALMENA, KANSAS**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF ALMENA,
KANSAS:**

Section 1. Animals: Keeping Prohibited. It shall be unlawful to keep, harbor, own or in any way possess within the corporate limits of the City of Alma, Kansas:

- (1) Any warm-blooded, carnivorous or omnivorous, wild or exotic animal (including, but not limited to non-human primates, raccoons, skunks, foxes and wild and exotic cats; but excluding fowl, ferrets and small rodents of varieties used for laboratory purposes).
- (2) Any animal having poisonous bites.
- (3) Any Pit bull dog; provided, that Pit bull dogs registered with the City on the date of publication of this ordinance may be kept within the City subject to the standards and requirements set forth in Section 2 of this ordinance. "Pit bull dog" is defined to mean:
 - (a) The Staffordshire bull terrier breed of dog;
 - (b) The American Pit bull terrier breed of dog;
 - (c) The American Staffordshire terrier breed of dog; or
 - (d) Any dog which has the appearance and characteristics of being predominantly of the breeds of Staffordshire bull terrier, American Pit bull terrier, or a combination of any of these breeds.
- (4) Any Rottweiler dog; provided, Rottweiler dogs registered with the City on the date of publication of this ordinance may be kept within the City subject to the standards and requirements set forth in Section 2 of this ordinance. "Rottweiler dog" is defined to mean:

The Rottweiler breed of dog characterized as a muscular dog with short, coarse black hair, and tan or mahogany markings on the head, chest and legs.

- (5) Any Doberman Pinscher dog; provided, Doberman Pinscher dogs registered with the City on the date of publication of this ordinance may be kept within the City subject to the standards and requirements set forth in Section 2 of this ordinance. "Doberman Pinscher dog" is defined to mean:

The Doberman breed of dog characterized by its black, blue or tan coat of short, smooth hair with rust-colored markings.

Section 2. Keeping of Registered Pit Bulls, Rottweilers and Doberman Pinschers. The provisions of Section 1 of this ordinance are not applicable to owners, keepers or harborers of Pit bull, Rottweiler or Doberman Pinscher dogs registered with the City of Almena as of June 23, 2004, the effective date of this ordinance. The keeping of such dogs, however, shall be subject to the following standards:

- (1) **Leash and Muzzle.** No person shall permit a registered Pit bull, Rottweiler or Doberman Pinscher dog to go outside its kennel or pen unless such dog is securely leashed with a leash no longer than four (4) feet in length. No person shall permit such dog to be kept on a chain, rope or other type of leash outside its kennel or pen unless a person is in physical control of the leash. Such dogs may not be leashed to inanimate objects such as trees, posts, buildings, etc. In addition, all such dogs on a leash outside the animal's kennel must be muzzled by a muzzling device sufficient to prevent such dog from biting persons or other animals.
- (2) **Confinement.** All registered Pit bull, Rottweiler or Doberman Pinscher dogs shall be securely confined indoors or in a securely enclosed and locked pen or kennel, except when leashed and muzzled as above provided. Such pen, kennel or structure must have secure sides and a secure top attached to the sides. All structures used to confine registered Pit bull, Rottweiler or Doberman Pinscher dogs must be locked with a key or combination lock when such animals are within the structure. Such structure must have a secure bottom or floor attached to the sides of the pen or the sides of the pen must be embedded in the ground not less than two (2) feet. All structures erected to house such dogs must comply with all zoning and building regulations of the City. All such structures must be adequately lighted and ventilated and kept in a clean and sanitary condition.
- (3) **Confinement Indoors.** No Pit bull, Rottweiler or Doberman Pinscher dog may be kept on a porch, patio or in any part of a house or structure that would allow the dog to exit such building on its own volition, in addition, no such animal may be kept in a house or structure when the windows are open or when screen windows or screen doors are the only obstacle preventing the dog from exiting the structure.

- (4) **Signs.** All owners, keepers or harborers of registered Pit bull, Rottweiler or Doberman Pinscher dogs within the City shall within 10 days of the effective date of this ordinance display in a prominent place on their premises a sign easily readable by the public using the words "**Beware of Dog.**" In addition, a similar sign is required to be posted on the kennel or pen of such animal.
- (5) **Insurance.** All owners, keepers or harborers of registered Pit bull, Rottweiler or Doberman Pinscher dogs must within 10 days of the effective date of this ordinance provide proof to the Almaena City Clerk of public liability insurance in a single incident amount of \$50,000.00 for bodily injury to or death of any person or persons or for damage to property owned by any persons which may result from the ownership, keeping or maintenance of such animal. Such insurance policy shall provide that no cancellation of the policy will be made unless 10 days written notice is first given to the Almaena City Clerk.
- (6) **Identification Photographs.** All owners, keepers or harborers of registered Pit bull, Rottweiler or Doberman Pinscher dogs must within 10 days of the effective date of this ordinance provide to the City Clerk two (2) color photographs of the registered animal clearly showing the color and approximate size of the animal.
- (7) **Reporting Requirements.** All owners, keepers or harborers of registered Pit bull, Rottweiler or Doberman Pinscher dogs must within 10 days of the incident, report the following information in writing to the Almaena City Clerk as required hereinafter:
 - (a) The removal from the City or death of such dog;
 - (b) The birth of offspring of such dog; or
 - (c) The new address of such dog owner should the owner move within the corporate city limits.
- (8) **Sale or Transfer of Ownership Prohibited.** No person shall sell, barter or in any other way dispose of a Pit bull, Rottweiler or Doberman Pinscher dog registered with the City to any person within the City unless the recipient person resides permanently in the same household and on the same premises as the registered owner of such dog; provided that the registered owner of such dog may sell or otherwise dispose of a registered dog or the offspring of such dog to persons who do not reside within the City.
- (9) **Animals Born of Registered Dogs.** All offspring born of Pit bull, Rottweiler or Doberman Pinscher dogs registered within the City must be removed from the City within six (6) weeks of the birth of such animal.
- (10) **Irrebuttable Presumptions.** There shall be an irrebuttable presumption that any dog registered with the City as a Pit bull, Rottweiler or Doberman Pinscher dog or any of those breeds prohibited by Section 1 of the ordinance is in fact a dog subject to the requirements of this ordinance.

- (11) **Failure to Comply.** It shall be unlawful for the owner, keeper or harbinger of a Pit bull, Rottweiler or Doberman Pinscher dog registered with the City of Almaena to fail to comply with the requirements and conditions set forth in this ordinance. Any dog found to be the subject of a violation of this ordinance shall be subject to immediate seizure and impoundment. In addition, failure to comply will result in the revocation of the license of such animal resulting in the immediate removal of the animal from the City.
- (12) **Violations and Penalties.** Any person violating or permitting the violation of any provision of this ordinance shall upon conviction in Municipal Court be fined a sum not less than \$200.00, and not more than \$1,000.00. In addition to the fine imposed, the Court may sentence the defendant to imprisonment in the County jail for a period not to exceed 30 days. In addition, the Court shall order the registration of the subject dog revoked and the dog removed from the City. Should the defendant refuse to remove the dog from the City, the Municipal Court Judge shall find the defendant owner in contempt and order the immediate confiscation and impoundment of the animal. Each day that a violation of this ordinance continues shall be deemed a separate offense. In addition to the foregoing penalties, any person who violates this ordinance shall pay all expenses, including shelter, food, handling, veterinary care and testimony necessitated by the enforcement of this ordinance.
- (13) **Severability.** If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

Section 3. This ordinance shall be part of and supplemental to Article 1, Chapter II of the Code of the City of Almaena, Kansas, concerning the control and regulation of animals in the City.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its publication in the official City newspaper.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY of the City of Almaena, Kansas, this 13th day of December, 2004.

CITY OF ALMENA, KANSAS


Gerald Wilson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Twila Ingram, City Clerk
Twila Ingram, City Clerk