ORDINANCE NO. 8-24

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF FORT SMITH ANIMAL REGULATIONS (2023 EDITION) AND ADOPTING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING THERETO

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS, THAT:

Section 1. Section 4-108(f) of the City of Fort Smith Animal Regulations (2023 Edition) as adopted by the Ordinance No. 35-23 and amended by Ordinance No. 37-23 is hereby amended to read as follows:

The city may make available vouchers toward the spay or neuter of dogs or cats. Animal owners may request such vouchers from the Chief of Police (or designee) which shall distribute any available vouchers on a first come, first served bases, limited to four vouchers per household per calendar year through December 31, 2026, and after such time shall be limited to one voucher per household per calendar year. The number and amount of vouchers may vary from year to year depending upon funds available and budgeted for such purpose.

- (1) Upon providing sufficient proof of residency and income, any qualified resident of the City of Fort Smith may obtain from the Chief of Police (or designee) a voucher toward the cost of sterilization surgery performed within the corporate boundaries of the city by a participating veterinarian or animal organization with surgical capabilities for an animal owned by the resident.
- (2) To be eligible for the voucher, the owner must provide proof that the animal is microchipped and has a current rabies vaccination. If microchipping and rabies vaccination are needed, such specific procedures may be included in the service cost covered by the city's voucher for sterilization procedure.
- (3) The City's voucher shall only apply to the sterilization procedure, microchipping (if needed) and rabies vaccination (if needed). No additional services will be covered by the City's voucher.
- (4) The specific policies, qualifications, requirements, allocations, processes or other items related to the voucher program shall be established and updated from time to time by resolution of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. All ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent required to resolve such conflict.

Section 3: The codifier of the City's ordinances shall codify the provisions adopted hereby as Section 4-108(f) of the City of Fort Smith Animal Regulations (2023 Edition).

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 18 day of January, 2024

APPROVED

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

Approved as to form:

City Attorney Publish (1) Time