

City Council Staff Report



Applicant:

NA

Prepared By:

John Jackson, Public
Safety Director

Public Hearing:

No

Attachments:

REQUEST

Consideration of a Resolution adding a definition of "vicious animal" to Mapleton City Code 6.08.160.

BACKGROUND & DESCRIPTION

Mapleton City code 6.08.160 prohibits the possession of a vicious dog. While the code prohibits having a vicious dog, it does not provide a definition of what constitutes a vicious dog.

EVALUATION

The current code reads: "The possession of a vicious dog is unlawful unless it is restrained, confined or muzzled so that it cannot bite or attack any person or animal. Dogs held in violation of this section shall be deemed a public nuisance, and their continued possession or ownership shall be unlawful. The police department may impound any such dog and dispose of it in a humane manner, after three (3) working days to allow for legal restraining action by the owner."

It is proposed that a definition of a vicious animal be added to this code. The definition would read: " **Vicious Animal** " is an animal 1) with a known propensity, tendency or disposition to attack unprovoked, to cause injury to, or to otherwise endanger the safety of humans or other domestic animals; 2) which attacks a human being or other domestic animal without provocation; or 3) which is trained or used to fight or to attack humans, except that this provision shall not apply to a dog owned or used by a government entity; 4) Feeding an animal to a snake or lizard shall not make the snake a vicious animal."

RECOMMENDATION

Modify Mapleton City Code 6.08.160 to include the definition of a vicious animal as detailed above.