



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Danny Barton, Chief of Police

Date: March 9, 2021

Reference: Animal Tethering Ordinance

Introduction: Over the past few years, Coppel Animal Services has received calls from concerned citizens regarding the way some residents tether dogs on their private property. These same residents have expressed a desire to consider a Tethering Ordinance for the City of Coppel.

Background: Staff has met and discussed a proposed Animal Tethering Ordinance in two previous work sessions. Numerous citizens voiced their concerns during the public comments at each of the two previous City Council meetings. The direction from City Council was to draft an ordinance much like the Dallas, Texas city ordinance related to tethered animals, specifically dogs. Council asked staff to proceed on an ordinance that requires the animal's owner to be present during any tethering. Additionally, a time frame was also suggested that would allow an animal to be tethered in the event an owner needed to tether the animal to complete a temporary task.

This proposed amendment to the City of Coppel Ordinance Chapter 9, Article 9-1, Section 9-1-3, Running at Large/Restraint.

This amendment requires the animal's owner to be present if an animal is tethered and further restricts a temporary task exception to one hour within a 24-hour period. No animal may be tethered during extreme weather conditions.

A copy of the proposed ordinance is attached as an exhibit.

Legal: The proposed amendment to Chapter 9, Article 9-1 Section 9-1-3 was drafted by Bob Hager.

Fiscal Impact: None.