

**Ordinance Committee
Tuesday, November 19, 2024
Bushor Conference Room
City Hall or Remote via Zoom. Burlington, Vermont
DRAFT MINUTES**

Members Present: Councilor Shannon (Chair), Councilor Bergman, Councilor Brown McKnight

Staff Present: Kim Sturtevant (Assistant City Attorney)

Public Present: Lori Kettler, Shannon Reilly, Mary Mefaun, Dana Dean, Kristie Adams

Meeting called to order at 11:10 AM.

1. Adopt the Agenda

1.01 Adopt the Agenda

Motion to Adopt the Draft Agenda with the amendment that public forum and discussion will take place during and after councilor discussion of the Dog Task Force recommendations.

Motion by Councilor Bergman, Seconded by Councilor Brown McKnight

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous

2. Adopt Draft Minutes

2.1 Adopt Draft Minutes from November 5.

Motion to adopt the draft minutes from November 5.

Motion by Councilor Bergman, Seconded by Councilor Brown McKnight

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous

3. Public Forum

Public forum to take place during the councilor discussion of the Dog Task Force recommendations.

4. Dog Task Force Report Review

Attorney Sturtevant presented the draft changes from the City Attorney's Office based off of Committee recommendations. These draft changes are available in the agenda packet.

Councilor Shannon asked for BPD to confirm if there is an existing system for receiving reports of dog bites and if the system needs to be changed in ordinance.

Councilor Brown McKnight asked the Attorney's Office to look into how the language of Section 5-4(a)(2) can be changed to clarify how animal bites on the owner's premises should be classified.

Councilor Bergman said the public hearing meetings in January should focus on the new regulations related to cats rather than discuss all of the small changes.

Councilor Shannon agreed and said she would prefer to address "exotic" animal ordinance changes at a later time if the Council thinks it is a good idea.

Councilor Bergman said the draft change in Section 5-13 of "domestic pet" to "companion animal" should be reversed for clarity unless there is a good reason to make the change. He added that he was fine changing the definition of "dangerous dog" to remove the requirement of receiving medical attention.

Councilor Shannon asked the Attorney's Office for historical data for dog licensing and revenue associated with it.

5. Any Other Committee Business

The Committee intends to host two public hearings in January. Potential dates include January 9th and 23rd. The meetings will be warned.

6. Adjournment

Without objection, Councilor Shannon adjourned the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 PM.