

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5 "ANIMALS" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ADD A NEW SECTION 5-8 TITLED "DISPOSAL OF DECEASED ANIMALS."

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That Chapter 5 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of St. Joseph, Missouri, be, and hereby is, amended by adding a new Section 5-? to be numbered, entitled and read as follows:

Sec. 5-8. Disposal of deceased animals.

(a) *Deceased animals.* No person in ownership or control of an animal shall place or leave the carcass of that animal, once deceased, in any street, alley, other public way, or on the property of another person, or allow the carcass to remain unburied and unpreserved and in a deteriorated state.

(b) *Disposal time.* The owner or other person in control of any deceased animal shall dispose of, or properly preserve, the carcass of that animal within 24 hours of the animal's death.

(c) *Disposal methods.* Deceased animals which are not properly preserved shall be buried in accordance with this section or released to the animal control and rescue division, a private veterinarian or a facility that properly handles deceased animals.

(d) *Burial requirements.* Buried deceased animals shall not be buried within 20 feet of any residential structure and must be buried at least four feet below the natural surface of the ground.

(e) *Large animals.* In addition to other requirements stated in this section, deceased animals weighing over 100 pounds shall be released to the animal control and rescue division, a private veterinarian or a facility that properly handles deceased animals.

SECTION 2. That any ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance be, and hereby are, repealed.

SECTION 3. That if any provision of this ordinance is found to be invalid, such provision shall be considered to be severable from the other parts of this ordinance and shall not affect the validity of the remaining parts of this ordinance.

SECTION 4 That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after date of passage.

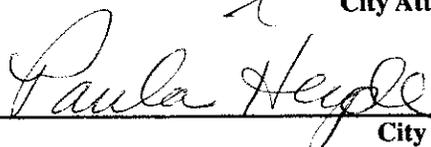
Approved as to form:



City Attorney

Passed October 8, 2018

Attest:



City Clerk



Mayor

Date: September 12, 2018
Account Number: N/A
Amount: N/A
Type of Ordinance: General

2018 SEP 17 PM 1:11

EXPLANATION TO COUNCIL BILL

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Health

PURPOSE: To amend Chapter 5 “Animals” of the Code of Ordinances to add a new Section 5-8 “Disposal of deceased animals.”

REMARKS: Animal Control and Rescue regularly receives inquiries and/or complaints about the burial of family pets in homeowners’ yards. The current city code lacks specific requirements regarding this issue. As a result of the continuing and ongoing number of inquiries and/or complaints city staff has chosen to be proactive and enact an ordinance that allows small animals to be buried in the backyard at a depth of a minimum of four feet and also twenty feet from any home. Larger pets will need to be appropriately disposed of by providing them to Animal Control and Rescue, a private veterinarian or a facility that properly handles deceased animals.

In the process of making these modifications, Animal Control and Rescue looked at ordinances of other communities in the area and amended our ordinance to be consistent with those ordinances.

During a work session on August 27, 2018, City Council supported the proposed code and recommended it be placed on the council agenda for consideration.

Submitted By:

Reviewed By:



Debra Bradley
Director of Health



J. Bruce Woody
City Manager