



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
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May 2, 2016

Lawrence R. Pizer, Town Clerk
Town of Plymouth
11 Lincoln Street
Plymouth, MA 02360

**RE: Plymouth Special Town Meeting of April 2, 2016 - Case # 7894
Warrant Article # 9 (General)**

Dear Mr. Pizer:

Article 9 - We approve Article 9 from the Plymouth April 2, 2016, Special Town Meeting.

Very truly yours,
MAURA HEALEY
ATTORNEY GENERAL
Kelli E. Gunagan
By: Kelli E. Gunagan
Assistant Attorney General
Municipal Law Unit
10 Mechanic Street, Suite 301
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 792-7600

cc: Town Counsel Elizabeth A. Lane

At a legal meeting of the Special Town Meeting of the Town of Plymouth held on 2 April 2016, the following business was transacted under Article Nine.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws, Chapter 23, Animals, for certain licenses and fines by deleting the strikethrough text and inserting the bold text as follows:

§23-11 Dog license. Notwithstanding the provisions of MGL c.140, §§139 and 173, the fees for dog licenses shall be ~~-\$10~~ **\$15** for altered males and spayed females and ~~\$20~~ **\$25** for unaltered males and unspayed females.

And,

§ 23-7. Unlicensed dogs; penalties.

The penalty for owning an unlicensed dog in the Town of Plymouth shall be ~~\$50~~ **\$75**, with each month of continued violation constituting a separate offense.

or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ARTICLE 9:

Mr. Moody moved that the Town vote to amend the General Bylaws, Chapter 23 Animals, by increasing dog license fees and fines, as outlined on pages 47-50 of the Special Town Meeting Report and Recommendations of the Advisory & Finance Committee.

§23-11 Dog license. Notwithstanding the provisions of MGL c.140, §§139 and 173, the fees for dog licenses shall be ~~\$10~~ **\$15** for altered males and spayed females and ~~\$20~~ **\$25** for unaltered males and unspayed females.

And,

§ 23-7. Unlicensed dogs; penalties.

The penalty for owning an unlicensed dog in the Town of Plymouth shall be ~~\$50~~ **\$75**, with each month of continued violation constituting a separate offense.

The motion PASSED.

I hereby certify that there was a quorum present at the Special Town Meeting at which this action was taken.

Witness my hand and seal of the Town of Plymouth this day, April 13, 2016.



Laurence R. Pizer
Town Clerk

§ 23-11. License fees.

- A. Dog license. Notwithstanding the provisions of MGL c. 140, §§ 139 and 173, the fees for dog licenses shall be [~~\$7~~] \$10 [~~amended 10/23/06 by Article 26~~] for altered males and spayed females and [~~\$10~~] \$20 [~~amended 4/10/01 by Article 29~~] for unaltered males and unspayed females.

[Replaced 4-13-04 by ATM Article 45]

~~Kennel license. Notwithstanding the provisions of MGL c. 140, § 137A, the fee for each license for a kennel shall be [~~\$25~~] \$50 [~~amended 4/10/01 by Article 29~~]~~

PLYMOUTH CODE

§ 23-11

- B. ~~if not more than four dogs are kept in said kennel, [~~\$50~~] \$75 [~~amended 4/10/01 by Article 29~~] if more than four but not more than [~~10~~] 9 [~~amended 4/10/01 by Article 29~~] dogs are kept therein and [~~\$150~~] [~~amended 4/10/01 by Article 29~~] if more than 10 dogs are kept therein.~~
Kennel license. Notwithstanding the provision of MGL c.140, 137A, the annual renewal fees for kennel licenses shall be for Grade One Licenses: Fifty dollars (\$50.00); for Grade Two License: Seventy-five (\$75.00); and for Grade Three License: One hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00). Kennel licenses must be renewed annually by January 1 of each year and each is subject to continued compliance with the conditions set forth in Section D and Section E of §23-13, License Required: Kennel Licenses.
- C. Substitute license tag. The fee for a substitute license tag shall be \$1.
- D. Certified guide dogs. There shall be no fee for licenses for certified guide dogs.
- E. Charitable kennels. The Town Clerk shall, upon application, issue without charge a kennel license to any domestic charitable corporation incorporated exclusively for the purpose of protecting animals from cruelty, neglect or abuse and for the relief of suffering among animals.
- F. Transfers. There shall be no fee for licenses issued pursuant to valid licenses transferred from other Massachusetts municipalities through the end of the then-current calendar year.

§ 23-12. Disposition of money.

§ 23-7. Unlicensed dogs; penalties.

The penalty for owning an unlicensed dog in the Town of Plymouth shall be ~~\$25~~ \$50 [amended 4/13/2004 by Article 44], with each month of continued violation constituting a separate offense.

§23-11 Dog license. Notwithstanding the provisions of MGL c.140, §§139 and 173, the fees for dog licenses shall be ~~\$10~~ \$15 for altered males and spayed females and ~~\$20~~ \$25 for unaltered males and unspayed females.

And,

§ 23-7. Unlicensed dogs; penalties.

The penalty for owning an unlicensed dog in the Town of Plymouth shall be ~~\$50~~ \$75, with each month of continued violation constituting a separate offense.

Bylaw changes adopted by Fall Annual Town Meeting, April 2, 2016 and approved by the Attorney General of the Commonwealth

Claims of invalidity by reason of any defect in the procedure of adoption or amendment may only be made within ninety days of this posting.

Copies of the bylaws are available for examination and may be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office.