STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF DARLINGTON  

ORDINANCE NO. 23-17

An Ordinance To Amend Darlington County Code Of Ordinances, Chapter 2 (Administration), Article V. (Finance), Division 7 (Fees), And Chapter 6 (Animals), Section 6-17 (Redemption) And Section 6-18 (Adoption) To Update The Schedule Of Fees As Outlined In The Darlington County Humane Society’s FY2023/2024 Animal Shelter Contract And Establish The Effective Date Of This Ordinance

PURPOSE

The purpose of this ordinance is to amend Darlington County Code of Ordinances to update Darlington County Humane Society’s FY23/24 animal adoption fees and animal redemption fees as outlined in Exhibit A of the Animal Shelter Contract approved by Darlington County Council on August 7, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the governing body of Darlington County, South Carolina, the Darlington County Council that:

SECTION 1

Darlington County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2 (Administration), Article V. (Finance), Division 7 (Fees) Section 2-412 (Fee schedule), items (1) Animal Adoption Fees and (2) Animal Redemption Fees which currently reads:

Sec. 2-412. Fee Schedule.
(1) Animal Adoption Fees
   a. $100 adoption
   b. $50 for spay/neuter dogs (refunded to prospective owner after providing proof to the animal shelter that the sterilization procedure has been performed.)
   c. $25 for spay/neuter cats (refunded to prospective owner after providing proof to the animal shelter that the sterilization procedure has been performed.)

(2) Animal Redemption Fees - If owners are entitled to resume possession of an impounded pet, and upon providing proper identification requirements, the redemption fees are as follows:
   a. $25 base fee
   b. $10 per day boarding fee (for each day beyond a full day after the pet is impounded)
c. $15 rabies inoculation fee, if applicable (SC Code 1976, §47-3-40) (Fee waived upon owner providing proof of a valid rabies inoculation for the year in which the pet is being held.)

d. $20 microchip fee, if applicable (SC Code 1976 §47-3-55)

Be amended to read:

Sec. 2-412. Fee Schedule.

(1) Animal Adoption Fees
   a. $100 adoption **$135 for dogs and puppies; $80 for cats and kittens**
   
   b. $50 for spay/neuter dogs *(refunded to prospective owner after providing proof to the animal shelter that the sterilization procedure has been performed.)*
   
   c. $25 for spay/neuter cats *(refunded to prospective owner after providing proof to the animal shelter that the sterilization procedure has been performed.)*

(2) Animal Redemption Fees - If owners are entitled to resume possession of an impounded pet, and upon providing proper identification requirements, the redemption fees are as follows:
   a. $25 base fee
   
   b. $10 per day boarding fee *(for each day beyond a full day after the pet is impounded)*
   
   c. $15 rabies inoculation fee, if applicable (SC Code 1976, §47-3-40) *(Fee waived upon owner providing proof of a valid rabies inoculation for the year in which the pet is being held.)*
   
   d. **$20 $25** microchip fee, if applicable (SC Code 1976 §47-3-55)

SECTION 2
Darlington County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6 (Animals), Article II. (Animal Control), Section 6-17 (Redemption), subsection (a) which currently reads:

Sec. 6-17. Redemption.
(a) The owner shall be entitled to resume possession of an impounded pet, except as herein provided in the cases of certain animals, and upon providing proper identification requirements and the payment of redemption fees. The redemption fees shall consist of a $25.00 base fee, a $10.00 per day boarding fee *(for each day beyond a full day after the pet is impounded)*, a $15.00 rabies inoculation fee, if applicable *(S.C. Code 1976, § 47-3-40)*, and a $20.00 microchip
fee, if applicable (S.C. Code 1976 § 47-3-55). The inoculation fee shall be waived upon the owner providing proof of a valid rabies inoculation for the year in which the pet is being held. All fees collected must be delivered to the county treasurer for deposit in the general fund of the county.

Be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 6-17. Redemption.
(a) The owner shall be entitled to resume possession of an impounded pet, except as herein provided in the cases of certain animals, and upon providing proper identification requirements and the payment of redemption fees. The redemption fees shall consist of a $25.00 base fee, a $10.00 per day boarding fee (for each day beyond a full day after the pet is impounded), a $15.00 rabies inoculation fee, if applicable (S.C. Code 1976, § 47-3-40), and a $20.00 $25.00 microchip fee, if applicable (S.C. Code 1976 § 47-3-55). The inoculation fee shall be waived upon the owner providing proof of a valid rabies inoculation for the year in which the pet is being held. All fees collected must be delivered to the county treasurer for deposit in the general fund of the county.

SECTION 3
Darlington County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6 (Animals), Article II (Animal Control), Section 6-18 (Adoption), subsection (a) which currently read:

Sec. 6-18. - Adoption.
(a) Any animal impounded under the provisions of this article will, at the end of the legal detention period, become the property of Darlington County or its lawful agent. The animal may then be adopted by a person deemed to be a responsible and suitable owner, who will agree to comply with the provisions of this article, answer an adoption questionnaire and sign an adoption contract. Adoption fees must be paid at the time of adoption. The adoption fees shall be $100.00.

Be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 6-18. - Adoption.
(a) Any animal impounded under the provisions of this article will, at the end of the legal detention period, become the property of Darlington County or its lawful agent. The animal may then be adopted by a person deemed to be a responsible and suitable owner, who will agree to comply with the provisions of this article, answer an adoption questionnaire and sign an adoption contract. Adoption fees must be paid at the time of adoption. The adoption fees shall be $100.00 $135 for dogs and puppies and $80 for cats and kittens.
SECTION 4
The provisions of this ordinance shall be included and incorporated in the Code of Ordinances of the County of Darlington, as an addition or amendment thereto.

SECTION 5
This ordinance shall become effective upon third reading.

ATTEST:

J. Janet Bishop
Clerk to Council

DARLINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL

Bobby Hudson, Chairman

FIRST READING: August 7, 2023
SECOND READING: September 11, 2023
PUBLIC HEARING: September 11, 2023
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