

ORDINANCE NO. 20 – 04 - 2020**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF KINGWOOD, COUNTY OF HUNTERDON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO CREATE CHAPTER 57 ENTITLED “ANIMALS” OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF KINGWOOD TO REQUIRE THE VACCINATION OF CATS**

WHEREAS, Rabies has now spread to New Jersey with cases documented in municipalities adjacent to and in the Township of Kingwood; and

WHEREAS, the Kingwood Township Committee deems this to be a serious situation and has concluded that immediate action is desirable to protect the health of township residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and Committee of the Township of Kingwood, the County of Hunterdon, that Chapter 57 entitled “Animals” of the Code of the Township of Kingwood (“Code”) is hereby amended as follows:

Section 1:

Article I “Dogs” is hereby created and shall include Sections 57-1 through 57-26.

Section 2:

Article II Cats

§ 57-27 Definitions.

“Cats” shall include domesticated and feral cats.

“Maintain” shall include the provision of food or shelter to any cat.

§ 57-28. Rabies vaccination required.

- A. No person shall own or maintain any cat over three months of age, within Kingwood Township, unless such cat has been vaccinated against rabies.
- B. All cats shall be vaccinated by a licensed veterinarian in accordance with the current "Compendium of Animal Rabies Vaccines and Recommendations for Immunization," published by the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians.

§ 57-29. Vaccination certificate.

A certificate of vaccination on a form recommended by the State of New Jersey shall be issued to the owner of each cat vaccinated.

Any person who owns or maintains a cat in Kingwood Township shall upon request of any member or authorized agent of the Board of Health, or of the Animal Control Officer of the township, produce a current unexpired certificate of vaccination for such cat establishing that the animal has been properly vaccinated against rabies.

§ 57-30. Exemptions.

The provisions of this chapter do not apply to cats held by licensed research facilities or by veterinary establishments, where cats are received or kept for diagnostic purposes, research, or medical treatments.

§ 57-31. Enforcement Officer

The Mayor of the Township of Kingwood shall have the power to appoint an Animal Control Officer, whose duty it shall be to enforce the provisions of this chapter.

§ 57-32 Violations and penalties.

- A. Failure to comply. Any person who fails or refuses to comply with this chapter shall be liable to a penalty of not more than \$500 for each offense, to be recovered by and in the name of the Township of Kingwood. Ownership or maintenance of each cat that has not been properly inoculated against rabies shall constitute a separate violation under this chapter.
- B. Refusal to show proof of vaccination. Refusal to show proof of current unexpired vaccination to anyone authorized to perform any duty under this chapter shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$100 for each offense, to be recovered by and in the name of the Township of Kingwood.

SECTION 2. All other subsections of Section 57 remain unchanged.

SECTION 3 All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are repealed as to such inconsistencies.

SECTION 4. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

SECTION 5. This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication according to law.

NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the following Ordinance was introduced on first reading by the Township Committee of the Township of Kingwood, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey at a meeting held on March 5, 2020. The Ordinance was then ordered to be published according to law. Notice is hereby given that the said Ordinance will be considered for final passage at a public hearing to be held on April 2, 2020 at a meeting beginning at 7:00PM at the Municipal Building located on the corner of County Road 519 and Oak Grove Road, Kingwood Township, New Jersey, at which time all interested persons will be heard.

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF
TOWNSHIP OF KINGWOOD**

Thomas Ciacciarelli, Mayor

Attest: April 2, 2020

**Cynthia L. Keller, RMC
Township Clerk**

Introduction: March 5, 2020

Publication: March 12, 2020

Final Adoption: April 2, 2020

Publication By Title Only: April 9, 2020

ROLL CALL VOTE	MOVED	SECONDED	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
R. Dodds	X		X			
M. Syrnick		X	X			
T. Ciacciarelli			X			

I, **Cynthia L. Keller**, Clerk of the Township of Kingwood, County of Hunterdon and State of New Jersey do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of **Ordinance No. 20-04-2020** adopted by the Kingwood Township Committee on April 2, 2020.

Cynthia L. Keller, RMC
Township Clerk