

ORDINANCE NO. 1662

**AN ORDINANCE TO ADD PROVISIONS TO MANCHESTER MUNICIPAL CODE
RELATIVE TO THE TETHERING OF ANIMALS**

WHEREAS Manchester Municipal Code provides limited and vague restrictions on the keeping of dogs; and

WHEREAS, as the population of the City of Manchester increases, dogs are being kept in increasingly small areas and in less than humane conditions; and

WHEREAS the Board of Mayor and Aldermen believes it in the best interest of the City of Manchester that certain regulation be enacted to ensure the humane treatment of animals.

BE IT THEREFORE ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF MANCHESTER, TENNESSEE that the following provisions be added to Manchester Municipal Code as new Section 10-111:

“10-111 ANIMAL TETHERING

- A) For purposes of this section, ‘tether’ means a cable, cord or similar device used to attach an animal to a stationary device but does not include chains or ropes.**
- B) No person shall allow any animal to remain confined in such a manner as to unreasonably restrict the animal’s ability to move.**
- C) In addition, no person shall allow any animal to be or remain tethered unless all of the following conditions are satisfied:**

- 1. The tether is not unreasonably heavy in proportion to the weight of the animal.**
- 2. A swivel is located at both ends of the tether and the tether is free of tangles.**
- 3. The collar or harness on the animal to which the swivel is attached is properly fitted and is a collar or harness that is commonly recognized as a pet collar or harness (choke and pinch collars are not permitted).**
- 4. The tether is not less than fifteen feet in length.**
- 5. Chains and ropes are prohibited for use as a tethering device.**
- 6. The animal shall not be tethered outside during a period of extreme weather, including without limitation a heat index of ninety-five degrees Fahrenheit (95° F) or above as determined by the National Weather Service, freezing temperatures, thunderstorms or tornados.**
- 7. The animal has access to water, shelter, adequate food and dry ground at all times.**
- 8. The animal is at least six months of age and has a current rabies vaccination.**
- 9. The animal is not sick, injured or in heat (estrus).**
- 10. Ground tethering must have an appropriate anchor which allows the tether to swivel and not get tangled or wrapped up. Trees, fences and wooden, concrete or metal posts are not appropriate anchors.**
- 11. Pulley, running line or trolley systems must be at least fifteen feet in length and not less than six feet above the ground.**
- 12. Each animal must be tethered separately.**
- 13. The tethering device shall allow the tethered animal to lie down comfortably at all positions of tether.**

- D) Each animal kept in violation of this section is a separate violation.**
- E) Each day such animal is kept in violation of this section is a separate violation.**
- F) Each violation of this section may be punished by a fine up to Fifty Dollars (\$50). After a third violation; the Court may Order the animal seized and impounded in accordance with other provisions of this Code and State law.”**

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF
THE CITY OF MANCHESTER, TENNESSEE that this ordinance shall take effect on and after
its publication and passage, the public welfare of the City of Manchester, Tennessee requiring it.

PASSED FIRST READING: _____ August 2 _____, 2022

PASSED SECOND AND FINAL READING: _____ September 6 _____, 2022

Marilyn Howard, Mayor

Bridget Anderson, Finance Director