COUNCIL BILL NO. 2025-455 ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE amending Chapter 18, Animals, of the Joplin City Code by amending certain fees found in Section 18-144; and, containing an emergency clause.

WHEREAS, the Joplin Humane Society requested changes to fees charged to the City of Joplin and the public for animal control services provided by the Society, and

WHEREAS, the Animal Sheltering Agreement between the City and the Society allows for annual increases in sheltering costs and the parties are in agreement with the proposed changes and

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI, as follows:

Section 1. That Section 18-144. Fees. of Article IV. Impoundment, of Chapter 18 Animals of the Joplin City Code be amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 18-144. Fees

(a) The following fines shall be charged to the public for the impoundment of any animal under the provisions of the article:

(1) First redemption of animal within 12 months	$15.00
(2) Each subsequent redemption of same animal within the preceding 12 months and additional	$15.00

(b) The following additional fees set herein shall be charged to the public, on a per animal basis, for various services provided by the Joplin Humane Society, Inc. and shall be modified in accordance with the contract between the city and the Joplin Humane Society, Inc., a copy of the same being on file in the office of the city clerk:

(1) Animal Intake and Tracking Fee	$10.91
(2) Animal Sheltering Fee for non-quarantined animals, for each day or fraction thereof	$10.24
(3) Quarantine Fee for each day or fraction thereof	$19.67
(4) Euthanasia Fee	$15.52
(5) Cremation Fee	$19.88
(6) Small Animal Cremation Fee	$6.58
(7) Other such fees as may apply pursuant and enumerated in any agreement between the city and the Joplin Humane Society, Inc.	

(c) Owners of impounded animals may retrieve or otherwise obtain the release of their animals from the Joplin Humane Society, Inc. only after they have made payment of impoundment and all other charges.

(d) If a financial hardship exists on the owner of an impounded animal, the $15.00 first impoundment fee may be waived at the direction of the director of public health and welfare if the following conditions apply:

(1) The animal is current on city license and rabies vaccination.
(2) No previous violations of city Code or written warnings have occurred with the owner or any animal in the owner's possession; or,
(3) The animal was impounded for being at large.

(e) Upon retrieving or otherwise obtaining the release of their animal, the owner shall provide proof of current city license and required rabies vaccination. If proof is not provided at that time, owner may be required to sign a statement, provided by the department of health and welfare, indicating that they will obtain proper pet license and rabies vaccination and will provide such proof to the department of health and welfare within 30 days of obtaining their animal's release. If such proof is not provided to the department of health and welfare a municipal citation may be initiated to the animal owner for violation of this section."

Section 2. That this Ordinance dealing with the immediate preservation of public health and safety is an emergency within the meaning of Section 2.12(1) of the Home Rule Charter of the City of Joplin, Missouri, and, as such, shall be in full force and effect immediately from and after its adoption and approval. Specifically, this ordinance allows for the provision of animal control services necessary for the protection of public health and meets the time limitations to allow the beginning of the agreement concurrent with the start of the city fiscal year.

Section 3. These fees are to be effective November 1, 2025.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI, this_____ day of _____, 2025.

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Keenan T. Cortez, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Holly Nagy, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____
Peter C. Edwards, City Attorney