

Town of Proctor
Vicious Dog Hearings Minutes
Draft
February 15, 2017
7:09 P.M. – 7:20 P.M.

Board Members Present:

Bruce Baccei, Chair
Bill Champine
John Jozwiak
Joe Manning
John Corliss

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m.

II. Approve Agenda

No changes to the agenda.

III. Vicious Dog Hearings

The Selectboard went in to deliberative session at 7:10 p.m. to review the draft Findings and Orders. The Selectboard came out of deliberative session at 7: 15 p.m. and issued findings and orders.

1. Denton (Cooper)

FINDINGS

The Selectboard heard testimony from Berry Denton, the owner of a dog “Cooper” implicated in a dog bite complaint. That testimony was admitted into evidence, as was the written narrative report of the investigation by Deputy Lema Carter, Rutland County Sheriff Department who investigated the incident. The Board adopted the testimony and the written report of the investigation as findings and as the factual basis for its order.

ORDER

The Selectboard did not declared the dog named “Cooper” to be a vicious dog. However, since the dog has bitten people on more than one occasion, the Selectboard ordered the dog be maintained under control at all times and that the dog not be on the Elementary School property at any time.

2. Pockett (Unnamed Dog)

FINDINGS

The Selectboard heard testimony from Meranda Bassette, owner of a puppy named Zim, killed by another dog, Craig Pockett, the keeper of a dog implicated in the attack of Zim, and one Kate Kenndy, a person who testified about the characteristics of pit bulls. A complaint and accompanying photographs dated February 6, 2017 by Meranda Bassette was admitted into evidence, as was the written narrative report of the investigation by Sargent Andrew Cross, Rutland County Sheriff Department who investigated the incident. The Board

adopted the complaint and the written report of the investigation as findings and as the factual basis for its order.

ORDER

The Selectboard declared the unnamed dog in the keeping of Craig Pockett to be a vicious dog and ordered the dog removed from and not returned to Proctor and that Craig Pockett reimburse Meranda Bassette for any of her expenses related to this matter. Craig Pockett shall be responsibility for civil penalties imposed by the Rutland County Sheriff Department.

The Findings and Orders shall be sent to the defendants by certified mail return receipt.

IV. Adjourn

Bill Champine made the motion at 7:20 p.m. to adjourn the February 15, 2017 special Selectboard meeting. The motion was seconded by Joe Manning and unanimously approved.