## ORDINANCE # 959\_

## ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BROWNSVILLE, TENNESSEE, ADOPTING THE RULES FOR THE CITY OF BROWNSVILLE DOG PARK ON EAST JEFFERSON STREET

WHEREAS, the City of Brownsville received a grant to build a dog park for the benefit of the residents of the City of Brownsville and their pets; and

WHEREAS, the dog park was constructed on East Jefferson Avenue close to the intersection of Anderson Avenue and is owned by the City of Brownsville; and

WHEREAS, certain rules and etiquette need to be adopted and followed by the users of the dog park.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Brownsville, Tennessee, as follows:

- 1. Hours of Operation: Sunrise to sunset.
- 2. Each dog owner assumes all liability for damages by anyone who is bitten or injured by their dog or any other dog under their care while using the park. Dog Park participation is at your own risk.
- 3. All dogs must be licensed and vaccinated/immunized. The use of heartworm and tick prevention products is highly recommended.
- 4. Remove leashes only in the designated "unleashed fenced areas". Dogs must be leashed while in the parking lots and walkways. The leash law applies in all areas except inside the fenced area of the park.
- 5. Dogs must be supervised by an adult (18 years or older) at all times.
- 6. No children under the age of 18 years are permitted in the park, unless accompanied by an adult. Do not run or chase after dogs, and never attempt to pet other dogs unless permission is granted by the dog's owner.
- 7. No unattended dogs are permitted in the park at any time. Abandoning animals is prohibited by law. Owners must maintain visual and voice control of their dog.
- 8. Accompany and monitor dogs closely at all times always have a leash available and ready for use as may be needed.
- 9. All dog owners are required to clean-up and remove waste, even outside the off-leash area. Designated containers and bags are available. Failure to clean-up after your dog will result in loss of dog park privileges.

- 10. Aggressive dogs are prohibited in the park. Reported cases may result in loss of dog park privileges.
- 11. Dogs that are in heat or are sick are prohibited.
- 12. Puppies under six months old are not permitted in the park. They have not had the necessary inoculations that allow them to interact safely with other dogs.
- 13. No prong (pinch), choke or spiked collars are permitted in the park. Dogs requiring this level of restriction are likely not socialized properly and should not be in an off-leash area. No dogs within the fenced in confines of the park can be leashed.
- 14. Do not allow dogs to dig holes, this creates safety hazards.
- 15. Professional dog trainers are not permitted to use this facility for training purposes without written permission from the City.
- 16. The City of Brownsville reserves the right to refuse admission and/or to evict any person from the park ground and assumes no liability for any accidents, injuries, loss or theft occurring on park property.
- 17. Owners must always watch their dog. Mischief can happen quickly.
- 18. Owners are responsible for their dog's actions.
- 19. Never leave a dog unattended. Always be aware of what is going on in the park.
- 20. Always clean-up after your dog. "Pooper Scooper" bags are provided. Owners who do not clean-up after their pets is the primary complaint about dog parks, so pay close attention and properly pick up waste before leaving the facility.
- 21. Don't bring a female dog in heat into the Park. Spayed/neutered animals are recommended.
- 22. If your dog becomes unruly or plays rough, please leash him/her and leave the park immediately, until the dog is under control and has settled down.
- 23. If you must bring children into the park, please supervise them closely.
- 24. Children are not permitted to be inside the off-leash area unsupervised.
- 25. Parents should consider all the risk associated with bringing children into the off-leash area. Teach children to ask permission from the dog owner before approaching an unfamiliar dog. Many dogs have not been socialized to children. Children are easily knocked over or injured by playing dogs and are susceptible to contracting infections and parasites from touching the ground where animal waste has been located. Supervising a child and a dog at the same time is difficult and puts all park users at risk. Dogs see direct eye contact as confrontational, and children may provoke a dog unintentionally by staring.

- 26. Owners should educate themselves on dog behavior. Ask questions. Be alert for and able to anticipate and prevent unacceptable behaviors, especially dog-on-dog aggression problems. Pay careful attention to the behavioral changes that develop as your dog move through the changes in its life, particularly once it has reached sexual maturity (typically 1 to 3 years). Research your dog's breed, including the history and original purpose of the breed so you can understand its behavior. A behavior that concerns some may simply be a rambunctious play style, but as park users have the right to ask other visitors to cease any activity that makes them uncomfortable. Owners must exit the area if their dog is acting in an aggressive manner.
- 27. Do not smoke or eat while in the park. Cigarette butts and food wrappers are tempting treats to visiting dogs, local wildlife and insects.
- 28. Bringing unlicensed dogs to the Park is strictly prohibited.

THIS ORDINANCE shall take effect immediately, the public welfare requiring it.

First reading 9-10-19

Second reading: 10-8-19

WILLIAM D. RAWLS, JR., Mayon

Attest:

SHERRY BATCHELOR, City Clerk