AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT OF CHAPTER 58 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, PERTAINING TO PARKS AND RECREATION; PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT OF SECTION 58-25 TO INCLUDE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR DOG PARKS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of St. Pete Beach recently completed the construction of a new dog park located in Vina Del Mar Park; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission wishes to provide rules and regulations for dog parks within the City of St. Pete Beach; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission has found this Ordinance to be in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of St. Pete Beach;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 58-25 – Domestic Animals of Article II of Chapter 58 of the Code of Ordinances, pertaining to City Parks and Facilities is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 58-25. – Domestic Animals

(a) Dogs and other pets shall be excluded from any park or recreation facility where food and drinks are sold.

(b) All dogs within city parks shall at all times be restrained and on adequate leashes not greater than eight feet in length.

(c) It is unlawful for any person owning or having custody or control of any dog on city property to fail to remove immediately the dog’s excrement therefrom.

(d) All pets are excluded from all swimming areas and beaches.

(e) The provisions of this section shall not apply to trained service animals used by visually or mobility impaired persons, to dogs used by police officers for law enforcement or tracking purposes, or to dogs while being trained in a city authorized dog training program.

(e) For parks that have a designated fenced area known as dog parks the following rules and regulations apply:

1. Owners are legally responsible for their dogs and injuries caused by them.
2. Dogs must be properly licensed and wear ID tags at all times.
3. Owners must clean up after their dogs and immediately fill any holes their dogs dig.
4. Dogs showing aggression towards people, as determined by Police Department personnel, will be removed from the premises.
5. Dogs that bark persistently are a nuisance and will be removed from the premises.
6. Dogs using the park must be at least 4 months old.
7. Dogs must never be left unattended.
8. Children must be under constant supervision.
9. Dogs "in heat" will not be allowed inside the park.
10. Dogs must remain leashed at all times when they are outside of the park.
11. Dogs must be leashed before entering and leaving the park.
12. Dogs off their leash are limited to two dogs per person inside the park.
13. Rawhide and food not allowed inside the dog park.
14. Dogs are the only type animals permitted in the park.
15. Dogs must be under voice command at all times.
16. Violators will be subject to removal from the park and suspension of park privileges.

Mayor Steve McFarlin

FIRST READING: 7-10-11
PUBLISHED: 5-14-11
SECOND READING: 5-24-11
PUBLIC HEARING: 6-24-11

Attest:

I, Rebecca Haynes, City Clerk of the City of St. Pete Beach, Florida, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was duly adopted in accordance with the provisions of applicable law this 27th day of May, 2011.

Rebecca Haynes, City Clerk