

**ORDINANCE NO. 24-04**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HANOVER, COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING THE TOWNSHIP OF HANOVER'S CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 44 ANIMALS; ARTICLE I CONTROL OF DOGS; BY ADDING A NEW § 44-9 STRAY DOGS, WHICH PROVIDES PROVISIONS FOR THE FUNDING OF ANIMAL CONTROL ACTIVITIES; AUTHORIZING COLONIAL REGIONAL POLICE COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH A POLICY FOR THE HANDLING OF STRAY DOGS, AND AUTHORIZING COLONIAL REGIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT TO ENFORCE ALL LAWS FOR THE HUMANE TREATMENT OF ANIMALS; AND, REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.**

**WHEREAS**, since 1995, Hanover Township (the "Township") and Lower Nazareth Township, Northampton County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have utilized Colonial Regional Police Department ("CRPD") to protect and promote the health, safety, and welfare of our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, through mutual agreement, each municipality appoints representatives to the Colonial Regional Police Commission ("CRPC") as the governing body of the CRPD; and

**WHEREAS**, neither municipality or CRPD employs an animal control officer to handle stray dog; and

**WHEREAS**, from time to time, Colonial Regional police officers are dispatched to pick up a lost or stray dog; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of the Township, CRPC, and the personnel of the CRPD to promote the humane treatment of animals; and

**WHEREAS**, the CRPC has established a policy to provide guidance to the personnel of CRPD on the handling of stray dogs, which requires the Township to guarantee funding in their annual budget for the care of stray dogs found within the Township's borders and to authorize

CRPD and CRPC to handle the care and disposition of the dog in a manner consistent with Pennsylvania Dog Law (Amended December 11, 1996, P.L. 943, No. 151).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED**, by the Board of Supervisors of Hanover Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania as follows:

**SECTION 1.** Chapter 44. *Animals*; Article I. *Control of Dogs*; is amended by adding the following:

**“§ 44-9 Stray Dogs**

A. Hanover Township Board of Supervisors shall on an annual basis provide funding in their general fund budget for animal control purposes, which shall include, but not be limited to, costs associated with feeding and basic veterinary care for the dog(s) as outlined in the Colonial Regional Police Commission policy that are picked up in Hanover Township.

B. Hanover Township Board of Supervisors shall empower and authorize the Colonial Regional Police Commission to determine the final disposition of the unclaimed dog(s), whether that should be adoption or euthanasia in a manner consistent with Pennsylvania Dog Law.

C. Hanover Township Board of Supervisors shall empower and authorize the Colonial Regional Police Commission and Colonial Police Department to enforce all Pennsylvania and local legislation pertaining to the humane treatment of animals, including, but not limited to, Pennsylvania Dog Law, Libre’s Law, and local ordinances.”

**SECTION 2.** All Ordinances and parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 3.** The provisions of this Ordinance shall be severable and if any provision thereof shall be declared unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared as a

legislative intent of the Township that this Ordinance would have been enacted had such unconstitutional, illegal or invalid provision(s) not been included herein.

**SECTION 4.** This Ordinance shall become effective within five (5) days of enactment.

**ENACTED AND ORDAINED** at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Hanover, County of Northampton on this 10 day of September, 2024.

**ATTEST:**

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,  
HANOVER TOWNSHIP,  
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY,  
PENNSYLVANIA**

By: Beth A. Bucko  
**BETH A. BUCKO,**  
Asst. Secretary

By: Susan A. Lawless  
**SUSAN A. LAWLESS, ESQUIRE,**  
Chair

