

Paramus Board of Health
Agenda
June 27th 2016
8:00 PM

Roll Call

Public Meeting Act

Reading of Agenda

Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting of May 23rd 2016

Correspondence

Staff Reports – Health Officer’s Report for May 2016

Committee Reports

Meeting open to the Public

Old Business

New Business

PARAMUS BOARD OF HEALTH
ORDINANCE NO.. 130

- 1) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 169, ARTICLE II “KENNELS, PET SHOPS, SHELTERS AND POUNDS” OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS, TO BAN THE SALE OF DOGS BRED IN PUPPY MILLS IN THE BOROUGH OF PARAMUS, BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, according to the Humane Society of the United States, inspection records show that many USDA-licensed breeders breed dogs or cats in inhumane conditions. These breeders are commonly referred to as “puppy mills” and documented problems include: over-breeding; inbreeding; veterinary care that doesn’t meet the same standards as other breeders; relatively poor quality of food and shelter; lack of human socialization; and overcrowded cages; and

WHEREAS, dogs bred in puppy mills are more likely to have behavior and/or health problems, and, according to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (“ASPCA”), fearful behavior and lack of socialization with humans and other animals are common characteristics of dogs from puppy mills; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A 4:19-15.8 contemplates municipal approval as a prerequisite to the establishment of a kennel for the retail sale of dogs; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Health of the Borough of Paramus find that, in addition to State and Federal Laws, the Borough has a local responsibility to promote animal welfare and encourage best practices in the breeding and purchasing of dogs; and

WHEREAS, although the Board of Health of Paramus recognizes that not all dogs retained in pet shops are products of inhumane breeding conditions and would not classify every commercial breeder selling dogs to pet shops as a “puppy mill”, it is the Board of Health’s belief that puppy mills continue to exist in part because of public demand for the sale of dogs in pet shops; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Health of Paramus believes that a ban on the retail sale of dogs bred in puppy mills from kennels in the Borough of Paramus will encourage pet owners and prospective pet owners to research breeding establishments prior to purchasing a dog or to adopt needy dogs from animal shelters, thereby saving animals’ lives and reducing the cost to the public for sheltering such needy animals, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Health of Paramus believes that a ban on the retail sale of dogs bred in puppy mills from kennels located will provide community awareness of animal welfare, and, in turn, will encourage a more humane environment in the Borough of Paramus and will be in the best interests of the public health, welfare and safety and be in the best interests of the dogs of Paramus; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Health of Paramus believes that a ban on the retail sale of dogs bred in puppy mills from kennels should apply to licenses issued on or after August 1st 2016.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Board of Health of Paramus, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey, that Chapter 169, Article II “Kennels, Pet Shops, Shelters and Pounds” of the Code of the Borough of Paramus, be and is hereby amended and supplemented as follows:

169-23. Definitions; Word Usage.

169-23 shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect, except that a new definition, “Puppy mill” and “Pet Shop Operator” shall be adopted as follows:

PUPPY MILL - A puppy mill is a commercial dog-breeding facility in which the health of the dogs is disregarded in order to maintain a low overhead and maximize profits.

PET SHOP OPERATOR – Means a person who owns or operates a pet store.

BE IT FUTHER ORDAINED, by the Board of Health of Paramus, County of Bergen and State of New Jersey add to the section 169-25:

169-25 (C) Prohibited Actions.

No kennel or pet shop shall sell, offer for retail sale, barter, auction, or otherwise, dogs bred in puppy mills. Every kennel or pet shop will comply with the provisions of N.J.S.A 56:8-95 requiring the owner

or operator offering dogs for sale to post in a conspicuous location on the cage or enclosure for each dog the following:

1. The date and place of birth or each dog, and the actual age, or approximate age as established by a veterinarian, of the animal;
2. The sex, color markings, and other identifying information of the animal including any tag, tattoo, collar number, or microchip information;
3. The name and address of the veterinarian attending to the animal while the animal is in the custody of the kennel or pet shop, and the date of the initial examination of the animal;
4. The first and last name of the breeder of the animal, the full street address of where the breeder is doing business, an email address, if available, by which to contact the breeder, the breeder's USDA license number, and, if the breeder is required to be licensed in the state in which the breeder is located, the breeder's state license number;
5. If the broker is different from the breeder, the first and last name of the broker of the animal, the full street address of where the broker is doing business, an email address if available, by which to contact the broker, the USDA license number of the broker, and if the broker is required to be licensed in the state in which the broker is located, the broker's state license number, and
6. The statement "Know Your Rights" in bold type face and no less than 12 point type, followed by the statement in no less than 10 point type, "State law requires that every shop offering dogs for sale post in a conspicuous location on or near each dog's cage or enclosure the USDA inspection reports for the breeder and broker of each dog for the two years prior to the first day that the dog is offered for sale. If you do not see a required inspection report, please request the report from the shop. If you have any concerns, please contact the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs, 124 Halsey Street Newark, NJ 07102, (973) 504-6200. You may also view these and other USDA inspection reports for the breeder and broker of each dog on the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS) website. You are entitled to receive additional information from APHIS about the breeder's or broker's history through the Federal Freedom of Information Act."

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this Ordinance shall take effect on August 1, 2016 after passage and publication in accordance with applicable law.

2) Leaf blower ordinance

Licenses and Permits

Adjournment