

**New Haven Selectboard Minutes on
Vicious Dog Hearing on Violation
Of Protective Order
January 3, 2024
7:00 pm
Town Offices**

Selectboard: Chair, John Roleau, Vice Chair, Bruce Many, Mike Audy and Marie Jewett

Town Attorney, Cindy Hill

Selectboard Assistant, Pam Kingman

Visitors: Animal Control Officer, Wayne Marcelle and Health Officer, Kathy Cahill

John Roleau opened the hearing on the violation at 7:01 pm.

In re: Sadie: Australian Shepard/ Border Collie mix; 1.5 years old, current on rabies vaccine and licensed in New Haven.

Owner: Scott & Lynda Reiss, 431 Hunt Road, New Haven, VT

Complainant: Kathy Cahill, New Haven Health Officer

The Selectboard received a written complaint from Kathy Cahill on December 12, 2024, after witnessing Lynda Reiss walking her dog, Sadie, on North Street in New Haven without a muzzle.

This is a clear violation of the Protective Order issued by the New Haven Selectboard on November 8, 2023.

Selectboard Chair, John Roleau asked Lynda Reiss if she had in fact walked her dog on North Street without a muzzle.

Lynda Reiss responded, that yes, Sadie is walked 1 x a week using heavy duty traffic leash. When she took Sadie out of the car in the New Haven Library parking lot, she did not feel it necessary to muzzle her, however she did have the muzzle in her pocket. She went on to say she rarely meets anyone on the road.

Scott Reiss said to his wife, "You walk North Street often."

Lynda Reiss replied, "Yes, numerous times."

John Roleau added both Scott and Lynda Reiss have been seen either walking or running the dog without the muzzle.

Scott Reiss said they do have a muzzle, but don't use it.

John Roleau replied, "You admit to not abiding by the Order. The Order said to muzzle the dog prior to leaving the house on any occasion. The Order also states to build a 6' fence or tether the dog. The dog is known to have bitten people in your neighborhood.

The Reiss's never appealed to the Selectboards Protective Order.

Scott Reiss said he didn't know they could appeal it. And asked if it was a lifetime muzzle.

Wayne Marcelle answered yes.

Scott Reiss started to complain about his neighbor and how she isn't abiding by her order.

John Roleau asked why they didn't make a complaint; we haven't heard from you about this. It is not a witch hunt. Before this I was fighting for your dog, I will not do that again. You have been honest about not muzzling; however, you don't want to follow the rules.

You have admitted to violating the Protective Order, next is disciplinary action by the Selectboard.

John Roleau made a motion to close the Hearing at 7:18 pm, seconded by Bruce Many. 4 yes / 0 no

John Roleau made a motion to go into deliberative session at 7:23pm, to include Attorney, Cindy Hill and Pam Kingman. Motion seconded by Marie Jewett. 4 yes / 0 no

Mike Audy made a motion to come out of deliberative session at 7:35pm, seconded by Marie Jewett. 4 yes / 0 no

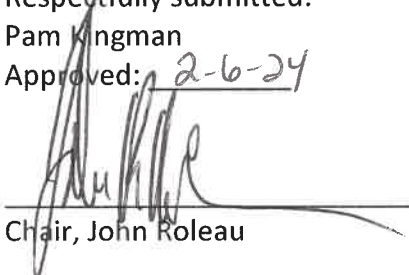
The Board did not make a decision at this time and will continue the deliberative session at a date to be determined.

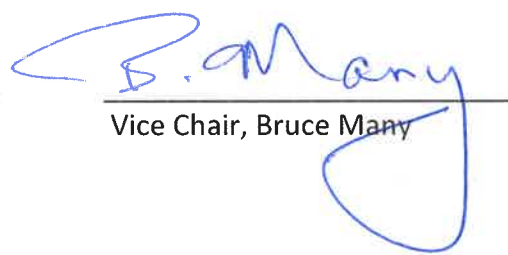
Adjourn:


Respectfully submitted:

Pam Kingman

Approved: 2-6-24


Chair, John Roleau


Vice Chair, Bruce Many



Mike Audy



Marie Jewett

