DRAFT ORDINANCE NO. 1911-028

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING A COMPREHENSIVE POLICY FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF RABIES TO PROTECT HUMAN AND ANIMAL INHABITANTS OF THE MUNICIPALITY FROM RABIES INFECTION, REGULATING PET OWNERSHIP FOR THE PURPOSE, PRESCRIBING MECHANISM THEREFOR, IMPOSING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF AND FOR OTHER RELATED PURPOSES.

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WHEREAS, among the mandates vested to every Local Government Units by the General Welfare Clause provision of Republic Act 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, is to promote the health and safety of its inhabitants.

WHEREAS, Republic Act 9482, otherwise known as the Rabies Act of 2007 has for its object, the prevention, control and elimination of rabies and further highlighted the need to protect the people from the risks of being infected by rabies arising from animal bites or scratches.

WHEREAS, to curb the recurring cases of rabies infection, it is indeed necessary for the Sangguniang Bayan to adopt a more detailed measures that would comprehensively outline the policies in order to effectively address animal's bite incidents.

NOW THEREFORE, be it enacted, as it is hereby enacted, by the Sangguniang Bayan of Taytay, Rizal, in session duly assembled, that;

Section 1. Title : This Ordinance shall be known as **"RABIES PREVENTION AND CONTROL ORDINANCE OF 2019 of Taytay, Rizal "**, pursuant to REPUBLIC ACT 9482, otherwise known as the RABIES ACT OF 2007."

Section 2. Definition of Terms : For purposes of this ordinance, the following terms shall mean as follows:

a. Rabies – refers to an infectious usually fatal disease of dogs, cats and other warm blooded animals caused by rhabdovirus and transmitted to humans by the bite of a rabid animal.

b. Rabies vaccination – refers to the inoculation of animals with rabies vaccine duly licensed by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture.

c. Pet Owner – refers to any person keeping, harboring or having charge or control of, or permitting any dog / cat to habitually be or remain on, or be lodged or fed within such person/s house, yard or premises. The parents or guardians of a minor child shall be deemed the owner when the animal is in possession of or controlled by a minor child.

d. Stray animal – refers to an animal leaving its owner's enclosed premises, which is not leashed, loose, unrestrained, unconfined and found running or roaming at large in the streets or in any public or private places.

e. Public Places – includes national, provincial, City/ municipal or barangay streets, parks, markets and such other places open to or for the use of the public.

f. Enclosed Premises – refers to the owner's house or owner's fenced surroundings where other people have no reason to enter except to conduct business or visit with the member of the household, where dogs and cats should be confined or leashed.

g. Restrained – means tethered / leashed or caged.

h. Quack Doctor – a traditional healers who used a native method of treating dog / cat bites by the use of animal horn or stone applied to the bite wound.

i. Euthanasia or mercy killing – refers to the legal act of putting animals to humane method of painless death.

j. Animal Control Officer (A.C.O.) – refers to the individual designated by the Municipal Agriculture Officer and authorized under this ordinance to carry out the apprehension and impounding of stray animal.

k. Impound – refers to the act of seizing and holding in custody as authorized by law.

l. Adoption – refers to the act of taking up and making one's own, homeless dogs / cats.

m. Information, Education and Communication (IEC) – refers to the approaches to disseminate information on rabies awareness and advocacy to responsible pet ownership (RPO).

n. Responsible Pet Owner – refers to a person who takes possession of such number of pets he or she can afford to fed and gives proper care to by giving clean, nutritious and sufficient food and water, bathing, cleaning its sleeping area, leashing or putting the pet in a cage and preventing it to stray and having it registered and vaccinated against dangerous communicable disease.

o. Hoarder – refers to a person who collects animals but fails to provide them with humane / adequate care. Sometimes they abandon their pet leaving unattended for a long period of time without food, water, adequate ventilation or shelter on public or private property which includes but is not limited to the property of the owner.

p. Citation – refers to the charging document issued by the designated officer to the violators of this ordinance.

Section 3. Duties and Responsibilities of Pet Owner : Pursuant to Section 5 of Joint DA, DOH, DepEd, DILG Administrative Order No. 01 series of 2008 (Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act 9482 (An Act Providing for the Control and Elimination of Human and Animal Rabies, Prescribing Penalties for Violation Thereof and Appropriating Funds Therefor), pet owners are required to:

a. Submit their pets for annual mandatory registration and anti – rabies vaccination. They shall maintain a vaccination and registration certificate which shall contain all information on vaccination / registration conducted on their pet/s for accurate record purposes.

b. Keep their pets inside their properties, enclosed premises or on a leash. Stray dog or cat shall be deemed as a public nuisance and shall be subject to seizure, detention and destruction.

c. Maintain control over their dog and prevent it from roaming on the streets or any public place without a leash, and if necessary with muzzle for dangerous dog under the control of a responsible person. The length of the leash shall not be more than one and a half (1.5) meters.

d. To ensure that a warning sign is displayed at each entrance to the property, house or building in which a dangerous dog is kept. This warning sign must be visible and legible from the nearest roar or thoroughfare.

e. Refrain his dog / cat from chasing, biting or attacking any person or domestic animal and damage public and private property in the absence of prior provocation.

f. In cases where a dog or cat defecates on any public or private property other than the property of its owner, the latter shall cause such fees to be immediately cleaned.

g. Keep a dog / cat in sanitary condition. Conditions shall be considered unsanitary where the keeping of the animal results in an accumulation of fecal matter, an odor, insect infection or rodents attractants which endanger the health of the animal or any person.

h. Provide their pets with proper grooming, adequate food, clean shelter and good health management program.

Section 4. Designation of the Municipal Registry Office for Pets, its duties and function :

a. The Municipal Agriculture Office is designated as the central registry of all rabies related undertakings in the municipality. As such, all local barangays including private veterinary clinics and private veterinary practitioners conducting dog vaccinations are directed to submit updated reports in the office.
b. The Municipal Agriculture Office shall keep a record of all pets vaccinated and registered per barangay, showing the date and registration / vaccination number, the name and description of the pet and the name and the address of the owner.

Section 5. Dog Registration and Immunization :

a. All dog owners shall register and submit their dog for rabies vaccination to the Municipal Agriculture Office within thirty (30) days after they have reached three (3) months of age from the birth of the puppy, after arrival or acquisition of such animal from another barangay or person. Following the previous rabies vaccination, revaccination and renewal of the registration shall be undertaken every year thereafter.

b. Actual vaccination must be performed by a Licensed Veterinarian, trained Livestock Technician or Animal Control Officer designated under the direct supervision of the Municipal Agriculture Officer.

c. Registration and vaccination of pets shall be done only in the Municipal Agriculture Office of Taytay or in particular barangay and private subdivision during scheduled mass registration and rabies vaccination activities where the owner of the animals resides. Likewise, the Animal Health Center of the Municipal Agriculture Office shall be opened to conduct daily vaccination from Monday to Friday to accommodate unvaccinated ones.

d. A mandatory registration / vaccination fee worth fifty pesos (P50.00) shall be collected by the authorized staff of the Municipal Agriculture Office and official receipt shall be issued to the owner of pet. The collected amount shall be remitted to the Municipal Treasurer's Office.

e. The Municipal Agriculture Office shall issue a Registration and Vaccination Certificate to the owner of vaccinated / registered pet. The certificate shall include the vaccination / registration number, official receipt number, owner's name, address, description of pets (pet's name, breed, color / markings, species, sex, age), date registered / vaccinated, expiration date of registration / vaccination, vaccine name and serial number; veterinarian's description (printed name, signature, PRC license number).The Municipal Agriculture Office shall specify the breed of dog as "ASPIN" also known as **Asong Pinoy** for the native dog, "MONGREL" formixed bred, or its particular name of breed for purebred.

f. It shall be unlawful for any person to use a registration / vaccination certificate issued for another pet other than the one described on the certificate.

g. Only healthy dog / cat shall be vaccinated. In effecting the vaccination, BAI registered and licensed vaccine shall be administered by the vaccinator. Even during mass vaccination, he / she shall use one disposable syringe per animal vaccinated againts rabies.

h. No other entity or group is allowed to conduct anti – rabies mass vaccination of pets in Taytay without the consent and authority of the Municipal Rabies Prevention and Control Committee (MRPCC).

i. In the transport of pets, the Municipal Agriculture Officer shall verify or require registration and vaccination records as proof of ownership. Certificate of vaccination shall be required before the issuance of veterinary health certificate and shipping permit.

Section 6. Animal Impounding Center, Impounding of Stray Dogs and Adoption of Impounded Animals :

a. The Municipal Government shall establish a Municipal Dog Pound at the premises of the Municipal Agriculture Office which shall be known as the "Animal Impounding Center." It shall serve as temporary shelter for impounded, abandoned, rescued and quarantined animals.

b. The operation and maintenance of Animal Impounding Center shall be administered and supervised by the Municipal Agriculture Office.

c. The Municipal Agricultural Officer shall create an Animal Control Unit and shall designate an Animal Control Officers (ACO) who shall be authorized and directed to perform apprehension and impounding of every dog or cat found at large (whether the animal is vaccinated / registered or not) or roaming without a leash outside the enclosed premises of the owner and other pound keeping activities. The ACO shall also be authorized to issue citation tickets to the violators of this ordinance either as a warning or with corresponding fine.

d. Upon receipt of animal into the pound, the Municipal Agriculture Officer shall post the list of impounded animals at the bulletin board of the Municipal Agriculture Office for three (3) consecutive days stating the breed, sex, age and color of the impounded animal, the data and time seized, and the site or location where respective impounded animals were caught.

e. Presidents of homeowners association of private subdivision with concrete fence wall and main gate manned by security guard are required to submit their request letters to the Municipal Agriculture Officer before the Animal Control Unit can enter and conduct stray animals impounding operation in the subdivision.

f. It shall be unlawful to interfere with any Animal Control Officer to illegally take or attempt to take any apprehended animal from the vehicle used to transport such animal or by taking or attempting to take any animal from the Animal Impounding Center without paying the necessary impounding fee or by any method which would block or hinder any Animal Control Officer from performing his duties.

g. Government officials and employees especially the staff of the Municipal Agriculture Office, member of Philippine National Police and Armed Forces of the Philippines, Barangay Officials including Barangay Tanods, Politicians and Media Practitioners shall not use their positions to ask a favor from the Animal Control Unit of the Municipal Agriculture Office to release their impounded pet from the Animal Impounding Center without paying the required impounding fee. They shall also discourage their friends and relatives to use their name and position to stand as "padrino" when claiming their impounded pet.

h. Impounded dog or cat shall be provided with clean food, water, and sheltered in sanitary conditions.

i. The rightful owner (or his / her duly authorized representative) of impounded pet shall claim their animal upon presentation of proof of ownership within three (3) days of its capture and impoundment from the Animal Impounding Center. Any owner not redeeming his / her pet within three (3) days shall be deemed to have forfeited all rights of ownership and the impounded pet shall become the property of the LGU. The pet shall remain impounded for an additional twenty four (24) hours, during which time any person may obtain ownership through adoption if they are willing to pay the cost of necessary rabies vaccination and registration fee. If no one adopts the animal, it may be destroyed in a humane manner. No dogs from the Animal Impounding Center shall be sold / disposed of or be slaughtered for food.

j. If the owner decided to redeem his / her pet from the Animal Impounding Center, he/she shall be penalized with a fine of five hundred pesos (P500.00) for registered / vaccinated pet or One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00) impounding fee for non-registered / non- vaccinated pet in accordance with existing laws. The Animal Control Officer shall issue a Certificate of Redemption and official receipt after paying the necessary charges

k. All impounded animals redeemed by its owner from the Animal Impounding Center shall receive a free medication against ectoparasites / endoparasites.

l. If the impounded animal to be claimed by the owner is not yet vaccinated / registered, a mandatory registration / vaccination fee worth fifty pesos (P50.00) shall be collected from the owner before releasing his/her impounded animal from the Animal Impounding Center.

m. In case of adoption from the Animal Impounding Center, the adopted animal will be made available by the new owner for inspection on the following schedule, viz: after two (2) weeks, after one (1) month and after (3) months respectively to be conducted by the A.C.O. to ensure that they did not slaughter the dog / cat. The proposed owner must be an animal lover, resident of Taytay with updated Community Tax Certificate.

n. The owner of impounded animal is not qualified to adopt his / her pet from the Animal Impounding Center. Likewise, the personnel of the Municipal Agriculture Office are not allowed to adopt any pet from the Animal Impounding Center, and any impounded animal that has been identified as dangerous may not be offered for adoption.

o. In the event that an impounded animal is suspected with rabies, it shall be isolated and observed accordingly. Upon its death, it must be submitted for laboratory examination.

p. Where there is reasonable belief that a violation of this ordinance has been committed, the Animal Control Officer and / or Police Officer shall have the right to enter upon any premises for the purpose of carrying out the duties imposed upon them by this ordinance.

Section 7. Abandonment and Surrender of Pet, Rescue Operation of Abandoned Animal :

a. The A.C.O. may accept pets abandoned and surrendered by their owner to the Animal Impounding Center. The owner of pet to be abandoned shall certify that he / she is fully and completely abandoning his / her pet to the Animal Control Unit of the Municipal Agriculture Office for its care or humane disposition. In addition, the owner shall also declare if the said pet has bitten any person or animal during the last fourteen (14) days.

b. After accepting the abandoned / surrendered pet to the Animal Impounding Center, a Certificate of Abandonment shall be issued by the Municipal Agriculture Officer to the owner.

c. The A.C.O. shall rescue abandoned animals during natural disasters and calamity situations. Issues and concerns on animal in disaster includes the following: (1) Animals left behind become stray resulting in traffic accidents; (2) Pet owners attempting to rescue their pets may create traffic jams; (3) Victims may be distressed to discover that they could not stay at evacuation centers if they had pets with them; (4) Animals may never be reunited with their owners because their owners could not be found; (5) Some animal owners in evacuation centers may show psychosomatic symptoms as a result of their unawareness on the whereabouts of their pets.

d The A.C.O. shall also rescue animals abandoned by hoarders. Animals found in cruel, abusive or neglected situations or animals that have been abandoned may be promptly impounded if no immediate contact with a responsible person can be made, provided, however, that the Animal Control Officer shall leave written notice stating the location of the animal and the reason for impoundment.

Section 8. Provision on Quack Doctor :

a. The Municipal Health Officer and Municipal Agriculture Officer shall discourage the bitten person to go to the faith healer or quack doctor.

b. The Municipal Government of Taytay, shall conduct Information and Education Campaign against the solicitation of the services of quack doctor to stop the illegal practice of administering false cures and giving unfounded pieces of advice on bite victims.

c. Should the bite victim die by reason of the treatment given by said quack doctor, the latter shall be held liable to the fullest extent in accordance with the existing laws.

Section 9. Slaughtering of Dogs and Trading / Selling of Dog Meat :

a. As this may spread rabies and other diseases especially if said dogs / cats are strays or of unknown origin, trading, slaughtering and selling of the meat of dogs and cats shall be strictly prohibited.

b. No meat, carcass or parts thereof, or any by- products of animals not considered food animals such as those derived from dogs and cats, either raw or cooked shall be sold or offered for sale as food in any market, restaurants, groceries or any retail stores, clandestinely or openly.

c. Buying or purchasing dogs / cats for purposes of selling the same to the persons / group identified as engaging in the illegal dog / cat trade or slaughter of the said animals for food shall be likewise penalized.

d. A person or group of persons shall be considered as engaged in the illegal dog / cat trade when he fails to show necessary permits or authority to engage in the business of the transport or facility, and the object of buying is to sell / slaughter the said animals for food.

e. Euthanasia or mercy killing of dogs maybe allowed when subject animals are afflicted with incurable disease or badly injured as determined and certified by a duly licensed veterinarian. It shall also be resorted when it aims to end the suffering of the dog if they should be immediately destroyed for humane reasons.

Section 10. Pre-exposure and Post-exposure Management :

a. Staff of the Municipal Agriculture Office especially the Animal Control Officers including the emergency hired laborers directly exposed to handling and impounding of dogs and cats shall underwent free pre-exposure and post-exposure anti-rabies vaccination to protect them against rabies.

b. In case the animal that has bitten or scratched an individual is not available for observation or testing, the victim shall be regarded as having been exposed to a rabid animal and the latter shall be immediately subject to preventive post-exposure vaccination measures.

c. A vaccinated or non vaccinated pet that bites an individual shall be observed for a period of fourteen (14) days while the human victim shall undergo preventive vaccination. The preventive post-exposure vaccinations maybe stopped if the suspected dog / cat is alive and shall remain healthy after the observation period based on the "Revised Guidelines on Management of Animal Bite Patients" pursuant to Administrative Order No. 2007-0029 of the Department of Health.

d. A dog or cat that has bitten human shall not be vaccinated, killed or euthanized within the fourteen (14) days observation period. Unvaccinated animal bitten by a confirmed rabid animal shall be immediately euthanized and properly disposed.

Section 11. Reporting of Biting Incidents, Rabies Cases and Surveillance System :

a. Within twenty four (24) hours after the incident, it shall be the duty of the pet owner and the victim to report animal biting incidents to the Municipal Agricultural Officer and Municipal Health Officer or to any licensed veterinarian or physician for proper guidance and investigation. The attending physician shall treat and advise the victim. The veterinarian shall handle the biting animal and place such dog / cat under observation for fourteen (14) days. He shall further report if the biting dog / cat becomes ill and show clinical signs of rabies or dies within the fourteen (14) days observation period.

b. The Municipal Agriculture Office and Health Offices shall conduct through investigation of dog or cat biting incidents, animal and human rabies cases. They shall submit reports to concerned agencies.

c. Barangay residents are also encouraged to report all suspected or confirmed rabies cases on both human and animals to the Municipal Agriculture Office and Health Offices.

Section 12. Responsibilities of the Pet Owner that Bite Humans :

a. The dog owner which has bitten any person shall be liable to assist immediately and bring the victim to a doctor. In all dog biting cases, the owner shall be liable to pay all the expenses incurred and other incidental expenses during the period of medication and examination of the bite victim in cases of negligence or unprovoked bite cases. If the injuries require medical attendance for a certain number of days, the owner of the animal is required to pay for the period the victim is not working. However, an exemption is made when the bite is inflicted by a restrained and registered / vaccinated pet and the incidence occurs inside the owner's enclosed premises.

b. If the owner of the animal willfully refuses to assist the dog bite victim and refuses to pay the expenses, the victim himself / herself shall institute appropriate charges in court to enforce the claim, and the owner of pet shall be penalized in accordance with the penal provision herein imposed.

c. Should the dog that bites during the fourteen (14) days observation period, the pet owner shall immediately submit the dog for rabies laboratory examination.

Section 13. Dog Control Measure :

a. The Municipal Government shall strictly implement mandatory confinement or leashing of dogs. Every pet animal shall be restrained and controlled so as to prevent it from causing property damage, harassing pedestrians or motorists, molesting passersby, chasing vehicles, or attacking persons or other animals. Stray dogs are prohibited and violators shall be penalized

b. No person shall tie, stake or fasten any dog within any street, alley, sidewalk, right-of-way, or other public place in the municipality or in such manner that the animals shall have access to any portion of any street, alley, sidewalk or other public places.

c. The Municipal Government shall promote the advocacy that each household shall maintain a maximum of three heads of dogs only, except for registered dog breeders in order to provide better care by the owner to their pets and as a way to control dog population in the community.

Section 14. Creation of a Municipal Rabies Prevention and Control Committee (MRPCC), its duties and function : There shall be created a Municipal Rabies Prevention and Control Committee which shall undertake the planning, implementation and monitoring of all rabies prevention, responsible pet ownership and animal control programs, projects and activities geared towards the eradication and neutralization of all threats of rabies against the population. Members of the MRPCC shall have the following specific duties and functions,

a. **Municipal Mayor : Chairman of MRPCC**

1. Recommend the appropriation of funds for the implementation of programs, projects and activities.

2. Decide with finality on all matters pertaining to the program.

3. Ensure the proper implementation of Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act 9482.

b. **Municipal Agriculture Officer : Vice Chairman of MRPCC**

1. Implement, supervise and monitor the activities and projects in compliance with Republic Act 9482 and its implementing rules and regulations (IRR).

2. Be responsible in resolving issues on, and evaluating dogs / cats and other possible rabies infected animal that bite humans.

3. Recommend complimentary measures that will reduce rabies cases in the Municipality.

4. Submit report to and coordinate regularly with the Provincial Veterinary Office, DA – Regional Field Unit IV – A, as well as to the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI).

5. Advise the Municipal Mayor on all matters pertaining to the improvement of local rabies eradication program.

6. Ensure that the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of RA 9482 and RA 8485 also known as The Animal Welfare Act of 1998 are properly implemented.

c. Municipal Health Officer : Member

1. Act as frontline in undertaking activities that may reduce human rabies cases in the municipality.

2. Be responsible in handling dog or cat bite victims.

3. Regularly submit monitoring reports of human rabies cases to the Department of Health
(DOH) or to the Center for Health Development.

7. Coordinate and report to the Municipal Agricultural Officer the recent dog and cat biting incidents.

8. Comply with and implement the IRR of RA 9482 particularly Section 6B (1) to (7) thereof.

d. **District Supervisors of Elementary Schools : Member**

1. Participate in reducing rabies cases by allowing the pupils and teachers to attend seminar on rabies awareness and responsible pet ownership initiated by the Municipal Agriculture Officer.

2. Require schools to have special activities to increase awareness on rabies and responsible pet ownership (RPO) especially during the Rabies Awareness Month in March and World Rabies Day on September 28 of each year.

3. Comply with and implement RA 9482 especially the provisions of Section 6C (1) to (4) thereof.

e **The President of Liga ng Barangay (LB) : Member**

1. Implement the local rabies prevention and stray animal control program in all barangays in the locality.

2. Strictly enforce and monitor dog leashing and confinement in all barangays.

3. Facilitate the conduct of mandatory routine animal census to update dog population in all barangays.

4. Adopt measures on compulsory dog registration, vaccination and impounding of stray animals.

5. Encourage the populace to refrain from seeking the services of quack doctor in treating dog and cat bite incidents.

6. Prohibit the trade, slaughter and commercial consumption of dog meat.

f. **The PNP Chief of Police : Member**

1. Assist in the implementation of local measures that will eradicate stray dogs in the municipallity.

2. Disseminate information and promote measures on dog registration and vaccination.

3. Coordinate the enforcement and provide pertinent assistance and security to the Animal Control Unit of the Municipal Agriculture Office during stray animal impounding operation and issuance of citation ticket.

4. Participate and assist the Municipal Government in the proper implementation of the program.

g. The Legal Officer : Member

1. Attend to and resolve all disputes, complaints or grievances that may arise in relation to the implementation of the program.

2. Recommend appropriate legal action to violators in accordance with the existing laws.

3. Initiate and exhaust all means for amicable settlement between the opposing parties and individuals.

4. Set case hearing and notify the concerned individuals of the schedule.

5. Recommend pertinent strategies for the improvement of the program.

Section 15. Creation of Barangay Rabies Prevention and Control Committee, its duties and function : There shall also be created in every barangay a Barangay Rabies Prevention and Control Committee (BRPCC) which shall implement the program activities in the barangay. The MRPCC shall oversee the proper implementation and monitoring of activities of the BRPCC which shall be composed of the following;

1. **Barangay Chairman – Chairman of BRPCC**

a. Implement and supervise census of animals every last quarter of the year to be submitted to the Municipal Agriculture Office.

b. Implement, supervise and monitor rabies program and activities such as dog registration, immunization, and educational information campaign in the barangay.

c. Call and conduct regular BRPCC meeting.

d. Formulate measures and control of stray dogs or dog impounding.

e. Strictly enforce dog leashing and confinement of stray dogs.

f. Accommodate and assist the MRPCC, veterinary and health personnel during conduct of rabies vaccination and other related activities.

g. Submit their accomplishment report to the MRPCC.

h. See to it those penalties to violators under existing laws are properly enforced.

2. The Barangay Secretary – Member

a. Formulate measures for the efficient census of animal population.

b. Keep all records of census, registration and vaccination of pets.

c. Accompany the Municipal Agriculture Officer and Health personnel in the conduct of rabies campaign.

d. Take and prepare minutes of the BRPCC meeting.

e. Prepare and ensure sending of meeting notices, violations, etc. to concerned individual or party.

3. The Barangay Rabies Coordinator - (Chairman of the Committee on Health of Sangguniang Barangay)

a. Responsible in gathering rabies updates, including dog and cat biting incidents in the barangay and submit reports to the MRPCC.

b. Coordinate with the barangay residents and the MRPCC to facilitate and enhance the implementation of the program.

c. Accompany the Municipal Agriculture Officer and Health personnel during the conduct of any rabies related activities.

4. Barangay Kagawad (Committee Chairman on Agriculture) – Member

a. Facilitate the dissemination of information about mandatory registration and vaccination schedule in the barangay.

b. Implement measures and assist in the conduct of animal population survey and submit it to the Barangay Secretary who shall compile the same for later submission to the Municipal Agriculture Office.

c. Assist in the development and monitoring of program implementation.

5. The Chief of Barangay Tanod– Member

a. Provide assistance to the Animal Control Unit of the Municipal Agriculture Office during impounding operation in the barangay.

b. Assist the Animal Control Officer in the issuance of citation ticket to the violators of this ordinance.

Section 16. Information and Education Campaign (I. E. C.) :

a. Lecture and video showing on rabies awareness and "Responsible Pet Ownership" (RPO) shall be regularly conducted by the Municipal Agriculture Office to all students and teachers of elementary, high school and Alternative Learning System (ALS) in coordination with the District Supervisors and School Principals.

b. Public lectures on "Responsible Pet Ownership" and rabies awareness shall also be conducted in the barangays, homeowner's association, NGO's, other groups and individuals and during public forum and extension services.

c. Flyers on rabies awareness and responsible pet ownership shall be made readily available to the general public particularly to the pet owners, elementary and high school students.

d. The National Rabies Awareness Month shall be observed every month of March as well as the World Rabies Day every September 28. A Municipal- wide pet fun activities shall be conducted during World Animal Day on every 4th day of October.

e. Posters, tarpaulins, streamers and signboard shall be posted in a conspicuous places.

f. The Municipal Agriculture Office shall require the owners of pet shops, dog food and veterinary supply stores to post information regarding rabies and responsible pet ownership.

Section 17. Penalties :

a. Pet owners who shall fail or refuse to have their dogs registered and immunized against rabies shall pay the fine of One Thousand pesos (P1.000.00). In addition, their dogs shall be seized / impounded by the Animal Control Officers.

b. Pet owners who shall refuse to have their dogs vaccinated against rabies shall be liable to pay for the vaccination of the dog bite victim, including such other expenses that maybe incurred in connection with the biting incident.

c. Pet owners who shall refuse to have their pet to be put under observation after a biting incident and / or shall not shoulder the medical expenses of any person bitten by his / her pet shall pay the fine of two thousand five hundred pesos [P 2,500.00] and / or an imprisonment of not less than 6 months.

d. A dog owner who shall refuse to put a leash on his / her dog when it is brought outside the house shall pay the fine of five hundred pesos (P500.00) for each incident or shall render two (2) days community service.

e. An impounded dog / cat shall be released only to its owner upon payment of a fine of five hundred pesos (P500.00) for registered / vaccinated pet. In case of non-registered or non-vaccinated pet, the fine shall be one thousand pesos (P1,000.00).

f. Any person found guilty of slaughtering, selling or trading dog meat shall pay the fine of two thousand five hundred pesos [P2,500.00] per dog and shall suffer an imprisonment of not less than 6 months.

g. Any person or persons performing illegal practice and administering treatment to dog bite victims such as the quack doctor and the like shall be punished in accordance with the existing laws.

h. Pet owners who refuse to **immediately** collect the feces of their pet on public place or other private property shall pay the fine of two hundred pesos (P200.00) or shall render one (1) day community service.

i. Any person who shall unlawfully interfere with any Animal Control Officer and shall illegally take or attempt to take any apprehended animal from the vehicle used to transport such animal or by taking or attempting to take any animal from the Animal Impounding Center without paying the necessary impounding fee or by any method shall block or hinder any Animal Control Officer from performing his duties shall pay the fine of two thousand pesos (P2,000.00).

j. Any person who shall fail to keep their pet/s inside their properties/ enclosed premises neither confine their animals in the cage or on leash shall pay the fine of two hundred pesos (P200.00) or shall render one (1) day community service for the first offense. For the second offense, the violator shall pay the fine of five hundred pesos (P500.00) or shall render two (2) days community service. Their pet/s shall be further confiscated.

k. Any person who shall unlawfully use the registration/ vaccination certificate issued for another pet other than the one described on the certificate shall pay the fine of two hundred pesos (P200.00) or shall render one (1) day community service.

l. For purposes of properly resolving earlier issued animal control citation ticket, the animal/pet owner or any violator of this ordinance shall within seventy two (72) hours from receipt of mentioned citation ticket from the apprehending Animal Control Officer (ACO) is required to report to the Municipal Agriculture Office. Failure to resolve such citation within the period provided above shall prompt the Municipal Mayor in his capacity as Chairman of the Municipal Rabies Prevention and Control Committee (MRPCC) to forward the same within the period of twenty four (24) hours to the City Legal Officer for filing of the appropriate charge/s in court.

Section 18. Separability Clause : If for any reason, any section or provision of this ordinance shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid by competent authority, such judgement or action shall not affect or impair the other sections or provisions hereof.

Section 19. Applicability Clause : All other matters not covered by the provisions of this ordinance shall be governed by pertinent provisions of existing laws and other ordinances.

Section 20. Repealing Clause. : All ordinances, rules and regulations, or part thereof, in conflict with, or inconsistent with any provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed and modified accordingly.

Section 21. Effectivity Clause.: This ordinance shall take effect following compliance with the required posting provided for under the pertinent Section 59 of Republic Act 7160.