



Town of Bristol
Town Administrator
1 South Street
P.O. Box 249
Bristol, VT 05443
(802) 453-2410 ext. 1
townadmin@bristolvt.org

Wade Acker
159 Choiniere Road
Bristol, VT 05443

** CERTIFIED MAIL **

February 23, 2023

Subject: Dog Ordinance violations

Dear Mr. Acker:

In November 2022, we received written complaints regarding different instances where your dog Cash was at large and either bit or otherwise exhibited aggressive behavior to two different people. For a number of reasons, the Selectboard was not able to conduct a hearing regarding the complaints at that time.

Section 125-5 of the Bristol Dog Ordinance (copy enclosed) specifies that dogs running at large is a violation of the Ordinance. Section 125-2 of the Ordinance defines a vicious dog as one that "... causes reasonable fear of bodily injury by attacking or threatening to attack any domestic animal or any person ...". Running at large and the behavior of a vicious dog are defined as nuisances, which are prohibited in Section 125-4 of the Ordinance. Both of these allegations are a serious concern. Because we have not received any additional complaints, a hearing before the Selectboard has not been scheduled. However, new complaints may result in hearing with the Selectboard, which could result in fines, a requirement of more secure methods for controlling the dog, and/or authorization to seize dog due to multiple violations.

In addition, no dogs are currently registered under your name or at your address, which is in violation of Section 125-3 of the Ordinance. Failure to register all dogs will result in enforcement in accordance with Section 125-15 of the Ordinance. Please contact the Town Clerk at (802) 453-2410 ext 5 or the Bristol Police Department at (802) 453- 6837 if you need assistance with the registration process.

Please contact me at 453-2410 ext 1 or townadmin@bristolvt.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Valerie Capels
Town Administrator

Enc.

C: Bristol Police Department
Sharon Lucia, Town Clerk
Complainants