

**CABOT SELECT BOARD
HEARING ON DOG COMPLAINT – BETH HERRICK
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2020, 4:30 p.m.
BY ZOOM**

Those present were Fred Ducharme, Ruth Goodrich, Mike Hogan, Matt Nally, Jim Wolenszk, Beth Herrick, Tyler Molleur, Hardwick Gazette, Marcy Martin

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Fred Ducharme at 4:30 p.m.
2. A motioned as made to approve agenda by Mike, with a second by Matt. Motion carried.
3. The purpose of this Hearing was a dog complaint against a dog attacking Lisa Guy's dog on Lisa Guy's property owned by Beth Herrick. The Town of Cabot did send a letter to Ms. Herrick notifying of this dog bite and that her dogs were unrestrained and not registered.
4. Beth – was over at a friend's house at the Commons. Molly, Beth's dog slipped out of the house. Beth then ran and grabbed the small dog by Lisa Guy. They said that Molly attacked the dog and Beth cannot understand how this happened. Beth alleged that that the owner threw the dog in the house and kicked the dog.

Fred asked if her dog was off the property and not on leash. Beth acknowledged that Molly was off the leach. In Lisa's first complaint she said was no puncture wounds, and then the dog was described antibiotics by the vet. Since this incident Beth's dogs have been hooked up. Fred again wanted to clarify that the dog was off the leash and Beth agreed that they were off the property and off the leash. Matt concurred with this was proven. However, as far as the injuries happened, we do not have any further information. He believes that we need to hear from the vet to see how the dog was damaged. As far as the injury we do not have enough information. There are two issues – dog running at large – the burden of proof is proved. Beth said that the dog sneaked by it. Beth has testimony that many people have stated that the dog has never been vicious.

Mike asked Beth if Nancy Casey lives in the Common. Beth said that she did. Mike then asked: Do you bring the dog with you. Not all the time. When I take her with me now, she is on the leash.

Matt told her that he understands how dogs can scoot out quickly, however, the definition by the ordinance the dog was in the wrong.

Marcy Martin, Lisa's sister asked if she could speak. Fred did acknowledge that she can speak.

Marcy: Molly has been running around loose when they moved and often thereafter. The dog was pulled out of her collar and leash and the husband said he has had to get down on their hands and knees. They have been threatened bodily and vehicle harm. All Lisa wanted to have the vet bill paid and wanted to live here because of health issue. Now they have moved because of the fear of the threats.

Mike where did they go? Marcy: they went back to New York.

Beth – did Marcy see this. Marcy: no and neither did you.

Fred – do we need more information? Mike–no; Matt–no; Ruth–bottom line is a dog running loose and territorial. As long as dog is restrained that takes care of this, however, it is sad that the people had to move out of Town. If we have an animal that is aggressive towards other animals and they will move on and there is a playground in the area. Do you wish to discuss this after everyone leaves the meeting? Everyone agreed.

Deliberative Session: 4:48 p.m. and came out at 4:59.

Mike moved that we fine Beth \$50 for a first offence according to the ordinance by the Town of Cabot and the cost of vet fee \$107.34 be remitted back to Lisa Guy via an invoice to Beth and the Town will reimburse Lisa Guy. Ruth seconded. Motion carried by roll call all agreed. We will draft a letter to Beth.

A Motion to adjourn was entertained by Matt with a second by Mike. The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Ritter
Town Clerk/Treasurer

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Betty Ritter, Town Clerk, Treasurer