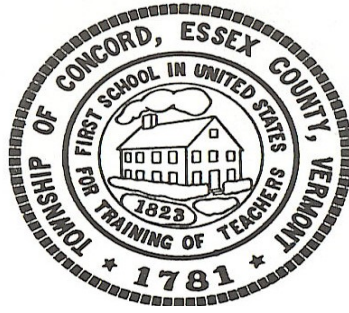


Selectboard Office
P.O. Box 317
Concord, VT 05824
(802)695-2910,
ext.21
(802)284-2009, Fax



George Morehouse-
Chairman
Bill Humphrey-Vice-
Chairman
Harold Lunnie
Mike Sorrell
Roger Wood

Dog Bite Hearing Minutes
Houghton vs Olden

June 11, 2020 @ 6:00pm
Concord Town Hall

Selectboard

George Morehouse-Chairman
Bill Humphrey-Vice-Chairman
Harold Lunnie
Mike Sorrell
Roger Wood

Animal Control Officer

GiGi Losh

Injured Person

Doris Houghton

Health Officer

Kris Heath

Dog Owner

Baylee Olden

Selectboard Admin. Asst.

Susan LaMadeleine

Caledonian Record

Stephen Garfield

Citizens

Shawn Olden
Brian Brown
Denise Bristol

KATV

Call Hearing to Order at 6:00pm

George M. called the hearing to order at 6:00pm

George M. asked for the people testifying to stand and take the oath:

George M. read the oath:

- **I hereby swear that the evidence I give in the cause under consideration shall be the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help me God (or, under the pains and penalties of perjury).**

All people testifying said yes.

Injured Person

George M. asked to hear from Doris Houghton. She stated that she walks every day to visit her sister and that the dog owned by Baylee Olden has bitten her twice.

- First incident was on March 7th when she was walking on a path on Jack Bristol's property when the dog ran up to her and bit her, resulting in an emergency room visit and 4 stitches.
- Second incident was on May 18th when she was walking on Woodward Road when the dog came over an embankment into the road on bit her wrist, resulting in another visit to the emergency room.

Questions from Board for Mrs. Doris Houghton

- Bill H. asked Doris H. to clarify where the path was located when the first dog bite accrued?
Doris H. stated that it was a path on Jack Bristol's property.
- Mike S. asked Doris H. if the dog had been previously running loose.
Doris H. said no, the dog has not been running loose.

Dog Owner

George M. asked to hear from Baylee Olden. She stated that she feels terrible about the dog biting Mrs. Houghton and wants her to feel safe. She said that the dog has never bitten anyone else before. She is looking into dog training and obedience classes for the dog. She says that the dog has been walked on a leash and is tied up behind the house since the last incident. Baylee O. believes that the dog was scared or startled which caused the dog to bite.

Questions from the Board for Miss Olden

- Bill H. wanted to clarify that the dog was now being muzzled and leashed when walking and that she has complete control of the dog. Baylee O. stated that since the incident the dog has been leashed and tied up in the back of the house.
- Mike S. stated that he believes the dog to be unpredictable and is concerned that the dog may bite again. Baylee O. believes that with the proper training the dog will be more trust worthy.
- George M. asked Baylee O. how long she and her dog have been residing on Woodward Road. Baylee O. stated since November 2019.

Health Officer-Kris Heath

Kris H. stated that she received via fax the first dog bite report from NVRH on March 8th. She spoke to Doris H. who was bitten on the right fore arm and had to have treatment at the emergency room. Doris H. believed that the dog bite was an isolated event and didn't want to pursue. The Selectboard and the Animal Control Officer were not informed of the first bite incident.

Kris H. stated that she received the second dog bite report on May 18th. She spoke to Doris H. who was bitten again on the wrist and had to have treatment at the emergency room. Doris H. told Kris H. that she was now scared of the dog and afraid to walk to her sister's house. Kris H. said that she then contacted GiGi Losh, the Animal Control Officer.

Questions from Board for Health Officer-Kris Heath—None asked

Animal Control Officer-GiGi Losh

GiGi L. stated that she wasn't notified of the first dog bite incident. She spoke to Doris H. who stated that she was very scared of the dog and afraid to walk fearing she would be bitten again a written report of the incident was taken by GiGi L. who previously presented to the Selectboard. GiGi L. spoke to Baylee O. telling her that her dog needed to be leashed or tied and under the owners control at all times. GiGi L. gave Baylee O. a copy of the Concord Dog Ordinance. She also told Baylee O. that the dog needed to be quarantined for fourteen days and contained at all time.

Questions from Board for Animal Control Officer-GiGi Losh---None asked

Final Comments—3 Minute Limit

- Doris H. stated that she would like the dog removed from the neighborhood as she does not feel safe anymore when walking. George M. asked if there were other dogs in her neighborhood. Doris H. Said yes and she doesn't have a problem with any other dogs.
- Baylee O. stated that she would re-home the dog rather than put the dog down. Bill H. asked Baylee O. if it was her intention to install a fence to contain the dog. Baylee O. said yes it was her intention.

Upon motion and majority approval, the Chairman shall either adjourn the hearing to a certain time or close the proceedings by stating this is a final public hearing on the matter

Upon final adjournment, the Board shall be deemed to be deliberative session until a written decision is issued.

Adjournment of Hearing

George M. adjourned the hearing at 6:23pm and stated that a written decision would be mailed to the parties involved within seven working days.

Deliberative Session

Board went into Deliberative Session at 6:23pm. Out of session at 6:50pm.

- Board decision; The terms of the order from the Selectboard are that the dog owned by Baylee Olden must be muzzled, chained or fenced in and/or confined at all times. If at any time it is reported by anyone that sees your dog not being constrained it will lead to the removal of your dog from your possession as provided in 20 V.S.A. §3550.

Final Adjournment

Mike S. made a motion to adjourn at 6:59pm. Bill H. 2nd. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date; _____

George Morehouse-Chairman

Mike Sorrell

Bill Humphrey-Vice-Chairman

Roger Wodd

Harold Lunnie

DRAFT