

7/9/64

Dog Hearing - German Shepard owned by Georg Rupprecht

Hearing convened: 9:00 p.m.

In attendance: Dog Officer Harry C. Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Norlund,
Mr. William Kickham.

Mr. Kreitsek indicated that the hearing was initiated by Mr. Kickham in a letter dated June 17, 1964, ~~and that~~ before this, Mrs. Norlund called the Executive Secretary to relate that she had, in fact, been bitten by the dog owned by Georg Rupprecht, ~~in an entirely unprovoked attack.~~

Mr. Kickham here reiterated his position which was stated in his letter and added that his boy is very much afraid of the dog even when the dog is on a leash as the dog is now. He stated also that the attack on his boy was entirely unprovoked and that the dog bit him quite severely on the leg. When Mrs. Rupprecht came to investigate this incident, the dog accompanied her and bit the boy on the hand.

Mr. Kreitsek here stated that he had been in communication with Mr. Rupprecht who told Mr. Kreitsek that ^{he brought} the dog was bothered by a rheumatic condition and that the dog was, at times, in great pain, and that this was the source of the dog's unruly behavior. Mr. Rupprecht told Mr. Kreitsek that he intended to have the dog thoroughly examined, would try to take corrective measures, and would keep the dog restrained. If he found that the consensus of the veterinarians was that the dog ~~was beyond medical help~~ was beyond medical help, he would do away with the dog.

Dog Officer Harry Rice said that the dog had been restrained after the child had been bitten, ^{and he found the dog easy to handle and in his} Mr. Norlund stated that the dog lacked training and that no effort had been made to train the dog.

After due deliberation and consideration, the board moved, seconded and unanimously voted to order that ^{Mr.} Rupprecht permanently restrain the dog; keep it always on a leash or in a pen.

*Opinion this was not
a vicious dog.*

*Approved
Secretary*

SIDNEY J. DOCKSER
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July 16, 1964

G. Paul Draheim
Office of Selectmen
Town of Sudbury
Sudbury, Mass.

Gentlemen:

Dr. Georg Rupprecht has referred your letter of July 14th concerning the restraining of his dog.

I find this letter most distressing as Dr. Rupprecht was advised by the Selectmen themselves that no hearing would be held on the July 9th date because he would be out of town and was also seeking counsel to represent him at any such hearing. Incidentally, why did you wait until the 14th to write this letter?

I, as you, am well aware of the background reason for this alleged hearing. It is indeed unusual for a Board of Selectmen, or any official group, to stoop to such a low ebb.

As I plan to take action against both the town and the Selectmen for this illegal and unwarranted action, I would suggest you refer this matter to your town counsel who may contact me.

Very truly yours,

Sidney J. Dockser

SJD/mas