ORDINANCE NO. 2026.027

ORDINANCE AMENDING § 91.33 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF BLANCHESTER, REGARDING THE CONFINEMENT, RESTRAINT, AND CONTROL OF DOGS

WHEREAS, the Village of Blanchester passed Ordinance No. 2021.016 to promote the health, safety, and welfare of residents and visitors attending public parades and large community gatherings;

WHEREAS, the Council for the Village of Blanchester desires to amend § 91.33 of the Code of Ordinances to incorporate the requirements set forth in Ordinance No. 2021.016;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Village of Blanchester, Clinton County, Ohio that:

SECTION 1.

§ 91.33 of the Code of Ordinances is hereby amended as shown in the attached Exhibit A.

SECTION 2.

The existing Ordinance No. 2021.016 is hereby repealed.

SECTION 3.

It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of Council, and that all deliberations of the Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements.

SECTION 4.

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect on the earliest date allowed by law.

Council member Ms. Lewis moved to adopt this Ordinance, and Mr. Hopkins seconded the motion, and the roll call being called upon its adoption, the vote was as follows:

Ms. Brooker- Yes
Mr. Coffman- Yes
Ms. Hanson- Yes
Mr. Hopkins- Yes
Ms. Lewis- Yes
Mr. Parks- Yes

Adopted this 22nd day of October, 2026.

John M Carman

John M. Carman, Mayor

Attest: Regina Johnson, Fiscal Officer

Fiscal Officer's Certificate:

The State of Ohio, County of Clinton, ss:

I, Regina Johnson, Fiscal Officer of the Village of Blanchester, County of Clinton, and in whose custody the files, journals, and records are required by the laws of the State of Ohio be kept, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance is taken and copied from the original Ordinance now on file with the said Village, that the foregoing Ordinance on has been compared by me and the said original and the same is a true and correct copy thereof, and has been posted as required by law. This Ordinance has been duly published by posting in the following places: Blanchester Municipal Building, 318 E. Main Street, First National Bank, 121 E. Main Street, Blanchester Post Office, 115 S. Wright Street, Tom's Express Mart, 7529 Fairground Road, and at the Blanchester Public Library 110 N. Broadway Street, each for a period of fifteen (15) days commending on the 27th day of October, 2026.

Witness my signature this 26th, day of October, 2026.

Fiscal Officer of the Village of Blanchester, Clinton County, Ohio

1st Reading: 9/24/2026

2nd Reading: 10/08/26

3rd Reading: 10/22/26

Ordinance 2026.027
EXHIBIT A

§ 91.33 REQUIREMENT TO PROPERLY CONFINE OR RESTRAIN A DOG.

(A) (1) Except as provided in division (F) of this section, no owner, keeper, or harborer of any dog shall fail at any time to do any of the following:

(a) Keep the dog physically confined or restrained upon the premises of the owner, keeper, or harborer by a leash, tether, adequate fence, supervision, or secure enclosure to prevent escape;

(b) Keep the dog under the reasonable control of some person.

(c) Have control of any type of animal (excluding trained police, military, or service animals), on a leash or not, without a muzzle to the Fourth of July, Veterans Memorial BHS Homecoming parades, OR any community gathering that exceeds One-Hundred (100) or more individuals.

Division (A)(c) of this section does not apply any dog that is completely enclosed within a stroller, wagon, carrier, crate, backpack carrier, or similar device designed to physically contain the animal and prevent direct contact between the animal and the public.

(2) A violation of division (A) of this section is a strict liability offense and R.C. § 2901.20 does not apply.

(B) Whoever commits a violation of this section that involves a dog that is not a nuisance dog, dangerous dog, or vicious dog shall be fined not less than $25 or more than $100 on a first offense, and on each subsequent offense shall be fined not less than $75 or more than $200 and may be imprisoned for not more than 30 days. Additionally, the court may order the offender to personally supervise the dog that the offender owns, keeps, or harbors, to cause that dog to complete dog obedience training, or to do both.

(C) Whoever commits a violation of this section that involves a nuisance dog is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree on the first offense and of a misdemeanor of the third degree on each subsequent offense involving the same dog. Additionally, the court may order the offender to personally supervise the nuisance dog that the offender owns, keeps, or harbors, to cause that dog to complete dog obedience training, or to do both.

(D) (1) Whoever commits a violation of this section that involves a dangerous dog is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree on a first offense and of a misdemeanor of the second degree on each subsequent offense. Additionally, the court may order the offender to do either or both of the following:

(a) Personally supervise the dangerous dog that the offender owns, keeps, or harbors;

(b) Cause that dog to complete dog obedience training.

(2) The court, in the alternative, may order the dangerous dog to be humanely destroyed by a licensed veterinarian or the county dog warden at the owner's expense.

(3) Until the court makes a final determination and during the pendency of any appeal and at the discretion of the dog warden, the dog shall be confined or restrained in accordance with R.C. § 955.24(A) or at the county dog pound at the owner's expense.

(E) (1) Whoever commits a violation of this section that involves a vicious dog is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree on a first offense and of a misdemeanor of the first degree on each subsequent offense. Additionally, the court shall order the offender to do both of the following:

(a) Personally supervise the vicious dog that the offender owns, keeps, or harbors;

(b) Cause that dog to complete dog obedience training.

(2) The court, in the alternative, may order the vicious dog to be humanely destroyed by a licensed veterinarian or the county dog warden at the owner's expense.

(3) Until the court makes a final determination and during the pendency of any appeal and at the discretion of the dog warden, the dog shall be confined or restrained in accordance with R.C. § 955.24(A) or at the county dog pound at the owner's expense.

(F) Division (A) of this section does not apply when a dog that has not been designated as a dangerous or vicious dog is lawfully engaged in either of the following:

(1) Hunting, provided the dog is accompanied by the owner, keeper, harborer, or handler of the dog;

(2) Field trials.