

Village of Interlaken passes ban on 'puppy mills'

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INTERLAKEN — The village of Interlaken is the latest area municipality to ban so-called “puppy mills.”

At its April 12 meeting, the Village Board enacted the ban as part of its overhaul of the entire village code, according to attorney Steven Getman.

Getman drafted the new regulations. He is a member of the Franklin & Gabriel Law Firm of Ovid, which represents the village.

The new law prohibits the construction or operation of any new commercial pet breeding or large-scale kennel facility and halts the expansion of any existing dog-breeding facilities in the village.

In enacting the ban, board members found that dogs rescued from puppy mills often exhibit health and behavioral problems. Getman said those problems include severe malnutrition and injuries from living on wire mesh flooring.

The law was passed following a public hearing in February and a review in March by the Seneca County Planning Board.

A violation of the law is punishable by a fine of up to \$500 or up to 15 days in jail.

Each day’s continued violation is a separate violation under the law.

Other local governments passing limits or bans on puppy mills are the towns of Romulus, Seneca Falls, Geneva and Gorham.

The entire updated Interlaken village code is available at www.villageofinterlaken.org.