Minute No. 229
Report – Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks – February 26, 2019

Item No. 1 Service Agreement between The City of Winnipeg and The Winnipeg Humane Society

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks and adopted the following:

1. That the Winnipeg Humane Society provide general animal services to the City, including the provision of a subsidized cat spay and neuter program, with annual payments to the Winnipeg Humane Society in the amount of $652,273 for the period of January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2021, and a further 5-year option to renew on the same terms and conditions as those outlined herein, be approved.

2. That the City enter into, execute and deliver a Service Agreement with The Winnipeg Humane Society and such other agreements as determined necessary by the Director of Legal Services and City Solicitor to implement the intent of the foregoing (the "Ancillary Agreements").

3. That authority be delegated to the Chief Operating Officer of the Animal Service Agency to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of the Service Agreement with The Winnipeg Humane Society and the Ancillary Agreements, in accordance with this report and terms and conditions deemed necessary by the Director of Legal Services and City Solicitor to protect the interests of the City.

4. That the Proper Officers of the City of Winnipeg be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Rollins,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On March 12, 2019, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 26, 2019, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to the Executive Policy Committee and Council:

Further on February 26, 2019, Javier Schwersensky, Chief Executive Director, The Winnipeg Humane Society, submitted a document titled “Fact Sheet: The WHS and the City of Winnipeg: Providing value for money and saving more animal lives” in support of the matter.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Service Agreement between The City of Winnipeg and The Winnipeg Humane Society

Critical Path: Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks – Executive Policy Committee – Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
L. Gordon	L. Gordon	M. Ruta	D. McNeil

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There are an estimated 148,386 cats and 112,139 dogs owned by Winnipeg residents, based on a 2008 Ipsos Reid Study. Due to these large pet populations, The City of Winnipeg has significant animal related services in place. This includes Animal Services as the facility to take stray dogs, and The Winnipeg Humane Society (WHS), through a Service Agreement, as the place to take stray cats. Additional services including emergency response to animal incidents, emergency veterinary care, and spay/neuter programming are also in place. The City of Winnipeg had a past Service Agreement with the WHS to provide general and specific animal services to the citizens of the City of Winnipeg. This Service Agreement expired on December 31, 2018.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council approve that The Winnipeg Humane Society provide general animal services to the City, including the provision of a subsidized cat spay and neuter program, with annual payments to the Winnipeg Humane Society in the amount of $652,273 for the period of January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2021, and a further 5-year option to renew on the same terms and conditions as those outlined herein.

2. That the City enter into, execute and deliver a Service Agreement with The Winnipeg Humane Society and such other agreements as determined necessary by the City Solicitor / Director of Legal Services to implement the intent of the foregoing (the “Ancillary Agreements”).

3. That authority be delegated to the Chief Operating Officer of the Animal Service Agency to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of the Service Agreement with The Winnipeg Humane Society and the Ancillary Agreements, in accordance with this report and terms and conditions deemed necessary by the City Solicitor / Director of Legal Services to protect the interests of the City.

4. That the proper officers of the City of Winnipeg be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

As there is currently no delegation of authority with regards to this agreement, Council approval is required for the City to enter into a Service Agreement with the WHS.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

The 2019 – 2021 Selection Report for the Animal Services Agency includes the recommended annual fee payments to the WHS.

The proposed Service Agreement is for the period of January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2021, with a further 5-year option to renew on the same terms and conditions as those outlined herein. The agreement may be terminated by either party without cause upon providing 90 days' notice in writing.

Fees
Fee payments to the WHS:
- 2019 Annual fee amount - $582,273
- 2020 Annual fee amount - $593,918
- 2021 Annual fee amount - $595,104

An additional amount is allocated for the Spay/Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP) at the WHS. This is an income-based program to help spay/neuter cats.
- 2019 SNAP - $70,000
- 2020 SNAP - $58,355
- 2021 SNAP - $57,169

The fee payments are subject to annual budget approval in each year of the Service Agreement.

Major Agreement Components
The major component of the Service Agreement is the housing and care of stray cats.
- Housing and care of stray cats
- Care of stray dogs and cats with medical conditions
- Emergency pickup of injured dogs and cats
- A low income spay/neuter program for cats (through SNAP)

Stray Cat Kenneling
Animal Services does not house cats at its facility. Historically, the WHS has been used (by residents of Winnipeg) as the primary facility to house stray cats.

Emergency Treatment and Response
The WHS picks up injured dogs and cats and provides medical care at its in-house veterinary clinic and at a private veterinary clinic.

Spay/Neuter Assistance Program (SNAP)
The SNAP program is a collaborative effort between the City, the WHS, and the cat owner. Each party contributes a portion toward the spay/neuter surgery of a cat. The program is designed to help low-income residents of Winnipeg have their cats fixed.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

The WHS has been helping dogs and cats in our community since 1894. The organization accepts surrendered dogs and cats and stray dogs and cats, primarily from Winnipeg residents.

The WHS has adoption, volunteer, and education programs. The WHS is the only animal welfare organization in Winnipeg that operates an internal veterinary clinic. In addition, the WHS conducts over 2,000 animal cruelty investigations per year on behalf of the Province of Manitoba under the Animal Care Act.

The WHS is an “open admission” shelter for stray cats found in Winnipeg. Animal Services is “open admission” for stray dogs found in Winnipeg. “Open admission” means an organization accepts animals regardless of temperament or health. The organization does not turn away animals that fall into these designated categories.

Animal Services handles more than 12,000 incidents per year involving animals. Historically, Animal Services has accepted stray dogs, commercial, and exotic animals. The Animal Services facility was built in 1994 without areas to handle cats.

Animal Services operates successful adoption, volunteer, and foster programs. License revenues help fund the services provided, including housing stray dogs and reuniting them with their owners, attending house fires or car accidents to help with the removal of animals where needed, and providing an adoption program.

A team of Animal Services Officers serve the residents of Winnipeg to help resolve neighborhood disputes and incidents involving animals.

The City of Winnipeg had a past Service Agreement with the WHS to provide general and specific animal services to the citizens of the City of Winnipeg. This Service Agreement was for two years, expired on December 31, 2018 and was composed of a $582,273 operating grant along with a $70,000 spay/neuter grant. The proposed agreement is for the same total amount of $652,273 but with inflationary increases to the operating grant offset with a reduction in the spay/neuter portion. Of note, the reduction in the spay/neuter portion will likely be offset by the annual FixIT grant that is awarded to successful applicants offering low income spay/neuter initiatives in the City. The FixIT grant is funded with 50% of annual cat licensing revenues.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement

Date: December 19, 2018

Project Name:

First Year of Program **2019**

Service Agreement between the City of Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Humane Society

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Funding Sources:					
Debt - Internal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Debt - External	-	-	-	-	-
Grants (Enter Description Here)	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves, Equity, Surplus	-	-	-	-	-
Other - Enter Description Here	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -				
Total Additional Debt Required	$ -				
Current Expenditures/Revenues					
Direct Costs	$ 652,273	$ 652,273	$ 652,273	$ -	$ -
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	-	-	-	-	-
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ 652,273	$ 652,273	$ 652,273	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	652,273	652,273	652,273	-	-
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments: The 2019 - 2021 Preliminary Budget and Animal Services Selection Report assumes a tax-supported subsidy of $652,273 in all years.

Original signed by K. Lemoine

Kelly Lemoine, CPA, CA
Manager, Finance and Administrative Services
Community Services Department

CONSULTATION

This Report has been prepared in consultation with:
Community Services Department
Legal Services Department (as to legal issues)
The Winnipeg Humane Society

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

The Service Agreement with the WHS aligns with the Quality of Life 03-2 Vitality Direction of Our Winnipeg by maintaining the health and safety of neighborhoods.

The Enabling Strategies are to provide animal care facilities coupled with spay/neuter efforts to help control over-population and to work with existing community animal welfare organizations to develop a shared vision and expand educational outreach efforts.

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Animal Services Agency
Division:
Prepared by: Leland Gordon
Date: January 17, 2019
File No: