



Report to Council

Department: Office of the CAO

Division: Legal and Legislative Services

Date: January 18, 2021

Prepared by: Shelley Brown, Deputy Clerk, Legal and Legislative Services

Report Number: Legal and Legislative Services-2021-01

Subject: Stray Cat Intake Agreement with Windsor-Essex County Humane Society

Number of Pages: 4

Recommendation(s)

That Legal and Legislative Services 2021-01 entitled Stray Cat Intake Agreement with Windsor-Essex County Humane Society prepared by Shelley Brown, Deputy Clerk, Legal and Legislative Services dated January 18, 2021 be received, and

That the agreement with Windsor-Essex County Humane Society for the intake of stray cats as approved in By-Law 1974, with the Town paying the Windsor-Essex County Humane Society amount of \$25.00 per stray cat, be extended for a one-year period, retroactive to January 1, 2021.

Purpose

An extension to the agreement as approved in By-Law 1974 for a further one year term must be adopted by Council.

Background and Discussion

In 2011 the Town entered into an agreement with Windsor-Essex County Humane Society that provided residents of the Town with intake services for stray and feral cats. Initially the Windsor-Essex County Humane Society charged a fee of \$30.00 per stray cat, with \$10.00 of the fee being paid by the resident and \$20.00 of the fee being paid by the Town. This fee has remained unchanged until 2018 when the Town's share of the fee increased to \$25 and the co-pay for residents was eliminated. At that time the Windsor Essex County Humane Society identified that the co-pay was frustrating for residents and created animosity, due to the fact that most Ontario residents are not required to pay a co-pay. This change brought about a more positive response from residents when they are asked for a voluntary donation to help the cat they bring in.

Individuals who use this service are required to provide evidence that they reside in the Town of Essex. This agreement does not apply to cats surrendered by their owner.

A breakdown of costs incurred from 2013 to December 2020 for intake services under this agreement is attached to this report. As noted in the attached schedule, actual annual costs are averaging \$3,878 over the period of 2013 to 2020.

The Windsor-Essex County Humane Society currently provides this service to the Towns of Kingsville, Lakeshore and Tecumseh as well as the City of Windsor.

In 2018 a new agreement for intake services with the Windsor-Essex County Humane Society was entered into for a 3-year term ending in 2020. The Windsor-Essex County Humane Society has requested that this contract be renewed for a further one-year term (2021).

It is recommended that this Agreement be run for a one-year period to coincide with the expiry and renewal of the Animal Control Services Contract, at which time a review of all of these services will be evaluated.

Financial Impact

None.

Consultations

None.

Link to Strategic Priorities

- ☐ Manage, invest and plan for sustainable municipal infrastructure which meets current and future needs of the municipality and its citizens.
- ☐ Create a safe, friendly and inclusive community which encourages healthy, active living for people of all ages and abilities.
- ☒ Provide a fiscal stewardship and value for tax dollars to ensure long-term financial health to the municipality.
- ☐ Manage responsible and viable growth while preserving and enhancing the unique rural and small town character of the community.
- ☒ Improve the experiences of individuals, as both citizens and customers, in their interactions with the Town of Essex.
- ☐ Improve the Town's capacity to meet the ongoing and future service needs of its citizens while ensuring the corporation is resilient in the face of unanticipated changes or disruptions.