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Date: February 11, 2019
To: Mayor and Council
Author: Roberta Baines, Deputy Clerk – Administrative Services
RE: Cat Intake Program – Windsor Essex County Humane Society
Report No.: CS 2019-02

AIM

This report is to provide Council with a recommendation to approve the two-year agreement between the Windsor/Essex County Humane Society (“Humane Society”) and the Town of Kingsville for the Intake of Cats Program (“Program”).

BACKGROUND

Since 2005, the Town has participated in this Program and the current agreement expired on December 31, 2018. The Program is a service provided by the Humane Society created to address the number of stray cats running-at-large within the Town and to provide drop-off location for residents. Stray cats that are surrendered can be categorized in two ways:

- 1) cat is adoptable: it is friendly, comfortable with human contact and may have wandered from home or has been abandoned by its owner; and,
- 2) cat is wild or feral: has clearly been living outside, not comfortable with human contact and is unadoptable.

The cat is examined and vaccinated by the Humane Society, and if it is healthy, it will be released back into the area. Since the program’s launch, more than 1300 stray cats have been dropped off from Kingsville.

DISCUSSION

The Humane Society has provided a new two-year agreement for the Cat Intake Program (2019 and 2020 calendar years) with an intake fee of \$25 for taking in stray cats from the residents of the Town of Kingsville. This program is becoming progressively more popular

among Kingsville residents as the last three years has shown an increase in the number of cats taken to the Humane Society.

The following other monetary provisions remain the same for the 2019-2020 agreement:

- The \$25 fee for the daily cost of quarantining a cat from Kingsville, if required
- Owner surrendered cats will be accepted by Humane Society for the full intake fee of \$25 paid entirely by owner

These fees are collected and billed to the Town on a monthly basis. The Humane Society is requesting that the Town be financially responsible for the stray cat intake fee of \$25 and quarantine period fee if required. Attached is the draft By-law 9-2019 and agreement with the Humane Society for your consideration.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Promote the betterment, self-image and attitude of the community.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The cost for the Intake of Cats Program in 2018 Animal Control Budget was \$2,500 and a 2019 budget item to increase to a financial allocation of \$3,500.

CONSULTATIONS

The Windsor Essex County Humane Society

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the two-year agreement between the Windsor/Essex County Humane Society and the Town of Kingsville for the continuation of the 2019-2020 Cat Intake Program, and adopts Authorizing By-law 9-2019 at this Regular Meeting.

Roberta Baines

Roberta Baines, BA
Deputy Clerk – Administrative Services

Jennifer Astrologo

Jennifer Astrologo, B.H.K. (Hons), LL.B.
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk

Peggy Van Mierlo-West

Peggy Van Mierlo-West, C.E.T.
Chief Administrative Officer