

The West Branch Animal Control Commission met on November 14, 2017 at 6:34 p.m. at West Branch City Offices.

Roll Call: Present were Leesa Johnson, Red Provine, Amy Lynch, Ashley Olsen, and Alan Beyer. Also present were Sgt. John Hanna, Mayor Roger Laughlin, City Administrator Redmond Jones, Fourth Grade instructor Blake Shultice, and many fourth graders and their parents.

Minutes from the October meeting were read and approved.

Old Business:

A. Urban Chicken Ordinance: Mr. Shultice began by presenting the history of his class's involvement in presenting this issue. Last year the class first met with the city council who referred them to the Animal Control Commission. This fall's class picked up on the process and reviewed a draft of the proposed ordinance. Questions were then presented by students and visitors on several provisions. Amount for fees was discussed and the fees charged by several Iowa cities was given for consideration. Most had application fees of about \$25 with a \$100 deposit and a charge for banding. A question on training was asked and told that the Indian Creek Nature Center in Cedar Rapids does this. A concern was raised about requiring neighbors to sign off on a permit. It was decided to have the applicant give 30 days notice to landlords and adjacent property owners to allow for objections to be filed. A student inquired about complaints; the ordinance addresses that by having concerns to be directed to the animal control officer or the W. B. Animal Control Commission. It was decided to have five chickens allowed. It was also decided to add that wings should be clipped to prevent flying.

With no more questions, Amy moved that we adopt a West Branch Urban Chicken Ordinance as presented and modified. Red seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

B. The change in pet registration fees was passed by city council and signed on November 6<sup>th</sup>.

C. There was no other old business.

New Business:

A. Police Report: Sgt. Hanna reported that three feral kittens were caught at the BP Station and taken to the West Branch Animal Clinic. Also, a dog on dog bite occurred with minor injuries and charges have not yet been filed. Traps have been set for fox in town. One was HBC and died, another died when in a trap, and a third hasn't been seen for a few days.

B. There was no further new business.

Next meeting date will be December 12<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.