

The West Branch Animal Control Commission met on January 8, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Members present were Red Provine, Ashley Olson, Amy Lynch, and Al Beyer. (Leesa Johnson arrived later) Also in attendance was Deputy City Clerk Leslie Brick.

Minutes from the December meeting were read and approved. (Comment: Al spoke with Matt about the dog bag receptacle at Lion's Field. Matt concluded that it would be best for them to install it due to potential to hit underground wires. Leslie said that she would put it on her list.)

New Business:

- A. Selection of Officers:           Al for Chairperson (nominated and seconded)  
  Amy for Vice Chair (nominated and seconded)  
  Red Provine for Secretary (nominated and seconded)
- B. Pet Registration:   Leslie Brick is present to talk more about online pet registration. In an effort to get more people to register the city has added an online option.
- Go to [www.westbranchiowa.org](http://www.westbranchiowa.org)
  - Click on online pet registration link
  - Complete information
  - Click to pay now

Once the submission is complete it is put directly into a spreadsheet for the city to track numbers better. She is tracking dog park numbers is a spread sheet as well. This is a huge time saver.

Leslie says that 50-75% of the registrations have been online so far this year. The only question is whether there is a need for the rabies number to be on the tag.

- C. Forever Tags: In a way to streamline the process the city would like to offer a "forever tag" option. Tags are ordered every year with some of them being thrown away. Proposal to do a three year option. Once a dog is issued a number that number remains with them through their life. Also, goes hand in hand with the three year rabies shots. Also, rather than seeing the homeowner every year they only have to do the process once every three years. This process is currently working with the dog park. By doing the forever tag the person would just keep the tag and the city would replace it if lost at no charge.
- D. Police Report: None
- E. Dog Park Complaints: Leslie also has heard a couple of complaints concerning the dog park.
- A non-resident purchased a tag but had issue with the amount of feces that was present. This raises a question as to who is to monitor this. Should be self policing. Amy will ask some of her regular customers about this situation.
  - People are staying at the dog park after hours.
  - Large dog vs. small dog separation.

Old Business:

A. Review of Animal Control Ordinances

- Will “forever tags” change the ordinance?
- Al will review and do some rewording for next time.
- Vote for forever tag and send to the council next time.
- Fees are considered resolution and not ordinance.
- Tags will remain the same at this time.

Discussion: Potential use of dog “septic” system and cameras/spam cams to prevent the feces problems. Who does the monitoring? Potential for locking the gate at night. Who locks the gate? Unlocks? Is a coded gate possible? This would potentially prevent misuse. Put on the agenda for next time. Cost of coded gate.

Next meeting will be February 12, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.