

The West Branch Animal Control Commission met on January 14, 2020 @ 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Members present were Alan Beyer, Amy Lynch, Ashley Olson and Gina Heick
Absent: Leesa Johnson

Also present was Deputy City Clerk, Leslie Brick and West Branch Police Officer, Zach Murdock.

Minutes from the November 12, 2019 meeting were read and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance 770 was approved by City Council on December 2, 2019 which ADDED Section 55.22.3C *New animal registrations and renewals can be made in person or on-line via the City's website providing all required information is provided. City tags will be issued for new pets upon receipt of payment.* DELETED Section 55.22.5B and insert in lieu thereof: *City tags will be issued once for the life of the animal. Tags can be issued for up to three (3) years coinciding with the rabies expiration date.*

TNR update: Alan checked with Dr. Samuelson regarding costs of vaccinations (rabies, FVRCP), ear tipping and altering. The feral cats are the same price as domestic cats, \$55.00 each.

Gina stated there is a colony of approximately 4-6 cats in the 100 block of Peterson Street that the homeowner has been feeding and is willing to TNR. Gina questioned the budget for those cats as well as the ones on 5th Street. Alan replied that the numbers are still low enough, that we should be OK. Fundraising for TNR was discussed.

Limiting the number of household pets: Alan stated there currently is no ordinance for limiting household pets in West Branch. Leslie Brick stated she has received a few inquiries from realtors and the public regarding breeds and number of animals per household. There was discussion regarding the pet OWNER being responsible, and there would be individual cases of nuisance calls.

Security at Dog Park: Amy checked on the price of coded entry security at the Dog Park. The approximate average cost would be \$3,500.00. Amy said it isn't fair to the ones who pay to use it. Comments and concerns regarding partying and drinking happening at the dog park. Fundraising for Security at the Dog Park was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Amy Lynch nominated Alan Beyer as Chairperson of the Animal Control Commission. Moved by Ashley Olson, seconded by Amy Lynch. Alan Beyer is Chairperson of the Animal Control Commission.

Ashley Olson nominated Amy Lynch as Vice Chairperson of the Animal Control Commission. Moved by Ashley Olson, seconded by Gina Heick. Amy Lynch is the Vice Chairperson of the Animal Control Commission.

Amy Lynch nominated Gina Heick as Secretary of the Animal Control Commission. Moved by Amy Lynch, seconded by Ashley Olson. Gina Heick is the Secretary of the Animal Control Commission.

Deputy City Clerk, Leslie Brick informed the Commission that the City of West Branch is doing a full Code update. Going forward, the updating will be done on a yearly basis. She asked that we review *Chapters 28, West Branch Animal Control Commission and Chapter 55, Animal Protection and Control*, and send any comments/changes to her before the next meeting.

Alan reported that per code, quarterly meetings are OK for the Animal Control Commission. Currently we meet 10 times a year (no meetings in July or December). He asked that we give this some thought and we can discuss it at our February 11th meeting.

POLICE REPORT

Officer Zach Murdock had no official reports. They continue to provide traps for cats and respond to barking dog calls. Regarding the issues and concerns at the Dog Park, Officer Murdock stated they are aware that the park is being used after dark, but the people are being responsible and that the Police

Department hasn't had any calls/complaints regarding this matter. The Police Department would follow any recommendations the Animal Control Commission has.

The next Animal Control Commission meeting is February 11, 2020 @ 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.