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WEST BRANCH ANIMAL CONTROL COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, August 11, 2020 • 6:30 p.m.

West Branch City Council Chambers, 110 N. Poplar St.

Council Quorum May Be Present

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approve minutes from the March 10, 2020 Animal Control Commission Meeting.
/ Move to action.
4. Old Business
 - a. Trap-neuter-release program
 - b. Dog Park regulations
 - c. Dog Park amenities
 - d. Other old business
5. New Business
 - a. Police Report
 - b. Animal Contact in the age of pandemics
 - c. Other new business
6. Next meeting date – September 8, 2020 (time change to 6:00 p.m. ??)
7. Adjourn

****Please wear a mask and social distance****

Commission Members: Chair Alan Beyer, DVM, Leesa Johnson, Amy Lynch, Ashley Olson, Gina Heick
Mayor: Roger Laughlin • **Council Members:** Colton Miller, Nick Goodweiler, Jodee Stoolman, Jerry Sexton, Tom Dean
City Administrator/Clerk: Redmond Jones II • **Fire Chief:** Kevin Stoolman • **Library Director:** Nick Shimmin
Parks & Rec Director: Melissa Russell • **Police Chief:** Mike Horihan • **Public Works Director:** Matt Goodale

The West Branch Animal Control Commission met on March 10, 2020 @ 6:30 p.m.

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

Also present: City Manager, Redmond Jones and Police Chief, Mike Horahan

Minutes from the February 11, 2020 meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Amy received a quote for installation on a weather proofed, key coded entry fence, \$2,889.00.

Mike asked if it would keep track of how many times someone used it, could there be sharing with others? Amy felt that those who pay would not want others using it for free. The quote is less than the other one for \$3,500.00, but still more than we can afford and fundraising would be needed.

Leesa asked if the City could help with funding.

Remond stated the item could be put into the next funding budget, happens every year around November. Board would be welcome to attend the goal setting meeting. All ideas are put on a list which goes to Counsel. Mike added that the Parks and Recreation Department may have some left over from Cubby Park, or a shared expense. Leesa expressed that the park is popular enough that it might be an option. Redmond that that the Animal Control Board may have about half of that needed, depending on what else we had planned for the money. And, there's a new amount each fiscal year.

TNR vs Strays – Mike and Alan talked about concerns of fixing someone's pet that got away, as well as billing. Mike state that any cat that the Police Department takes up to the Vet's is considered a stray and Dr. Beyer signs off on. There was a question about ferals cats same as wild. Alan stated that TNR releases those cats that are taken care of in a colony regularly, while strays are cats that cannot be caught or that get away. Amy stated that we should be able to identify the colonies in town and those that are strays. Alan said that strays are held for three (3) days and adopted or euthanized, if not adaptable. Mike said he did not have a problem with the TNR Program, except for releasing the cat back into the city, as it is actually in violation of City Ordinance. He also had concerns with catching someone's pet, when they really wanted the other two cats caught...etc. Redmond stated that if the Board wants to pursue, there would have to be an amended Code, or change our program. There was discussion about the numbers being low enough and having enough money in the budget, to try doing an experimental TNR and then do an ordinance. Redmond thought he could get this on Monday's agenda, at the very least , as discussion and he will check with City Attorney, Kevin Olsen regarding if this would need one reading or multiples. Alan will be attending meeting.

Dog Park Clean Up – suggested that we do it the same day and time as our regular Tuesday, April 14th meeting, weather permitting. Board agreed that would be fine.

NEW BUSINESS

Police Report – Chief Horahan reported there was a dog bite in the Ridgeview area. It was a small dog, vaccinations were all in place. A copy of the report was Faxed to the Department of Health. The Chief also mentioned that the Mobile Home Park will be bringing in a “fair” number of cats.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, April 14th @ 6:30 at the Dog Park.

Adjourned at 6:58 p.m.