

West Branch Animal Control Commission

Minutes from October 8, 2024 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Present were Leesa Johnson, Ashley Wildman, Alan Beyer, Sgt. Steen, and Officer Longett. Absent were Amy Lynch and Nate Bartz.

Leesa moved to approve minutes from the September meeting. Ashley seconded. Motion carried.

New Business

- **Police Report:** Sgt. Steen introduced Officer Brad Longett. She said there have been numerous calls regarding stray dogs and a nuisance raccoon. (Officer Longett informed the council that a group of raccoons is called a gaze or a nursery.) Sgt Steen said the offending party discussed at our last meeting regarding a dog attack has been non-compliant by refusing a registered letter informing him of the ordinances and penalties. The council recommended to pursue collecting the fine without physical confrontation.
- **Pet registration fees:** Beyer said that if registration fees were changed, it should be done prior to December so the city could be ready for the new year. He listed ten neighboring communities whose fees were similar to West Branch. W.B. was the only community with a separate cat registration. Sgt. Steen relayed a message from Leslie Brick who told her that cities were not doing this anymore. The matter was tabled until the net meeting.
- **Dog Park fees:** Fees vary among communities from \$5 per year to \$32 per year with more for non-residents. The matter was tabled until the next meeting.

Old Business

- **Dog Fair:** Ashley said the event was a great success bringing in \$1800. There was difficulty obtaining permits from the city to use Beranek Park.
- **Dog Park:** The park continues to be heavily used. Grass seems to be maintaining pretty well despite the dry weather.

Next meeting date is November 12th.

Leesa moved to adjourn. Ashley seconded. Motion carried.