ITEM 12

MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 31

COUNCIL MEETING Apr. 25/77

Re: LETTER FROM MRS. GERTRUDE W. OMSTEAD WHICH APPEARED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE APRIL 18, 1977 MEETING OF COUNCIL (5a)

Appearing on last week's agenda was a letter from Mrs. Gertrude W. Omstead regarding a number of matters pertaining to the control of animals. Following is a report from the Chief Licence Inspector on this matter.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT a copy of this report be sent to Mrs. Gertrude W. Omstead.

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20 April 1977

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER

FROM: CHIEF LICENCE INSPECTOR

RE: ANIMAL CONTROL

At the meeting of 18 April 1977, Council received a letter from Gertrude W. Omstead, 6041 Kathleen Avenue, Burnaby, concerning dogs running at large, dogs barking while tied on the owner's property, lack of food and water for one dog, and a request that we consider enacting a by-law which would require dog owners to confine their dogs in a fenced yard.

The Municipal Solicitor advises that the Municipal Act does not empower us to enact a by-law which would require dog owners to fence their yards or confine their dogs in a kennel area.

The Dog Tax and Pound By-law provides that every dog shall be kept on a leash while on a highway or public place.

A search of pound records reveals that Gertrude Omstead has not contacted the poundkeeper regarding the problem of dogs in her neighbourhood. A member of the S.P.C.A. contacted Mrs. Omstead and obtained particulars of her complaint. Between 1 February 1977 and 14 April 1977, in the area of the 5900 to 6100 block Kathleen Avenue 12 dogs were impounded and one violation ticket was issued. During this period, one complaint was recorded from a resident in the 6100 block Kathleen Avenue. Additionally, four dogs were impounded from the area of Central Park immediately adjacent to Kathleen Avenue, Wilson Avenue and Patterson Avenue.

ITEM

12

31

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COUNCIL MEETING Apr. 25/77

140

-2-

The S.P.C.A. Supervisor of the Burnaby Shelter advises that the dog tied in the yard at Wilson Avenue and Patterson Avenue appears to be in good condition and there is no apparent lack of food or water. Also, the dog did not bark when they attended on the property. A survey of the immediate neighbours revealed that the dog rarely barks and it is generally no problem to them.

The Chief Public Health Inspector advises that no complaints of barking dogs have been recorded from this area. However, in view of Mrs. Omstead's letter, they will contact her and initiate whatever action may be warranted pursuant to the Noise and Sound Abatement By-law.

The S.P.C.A. will continue to patrol this area.

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Gertrude W. Omstead, 6041 Kathleen Avenue, Burnaby, receive a copy of this report.

P. A. Kenzie

CHIEF LICENCE INSPECTOR

PK:gw

cc: Municipal Treasurer Municipal Solicitor Chief Public Health Inspector.