

ITEM SUPPLEMENTARY	17
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	59
COUNCIL MEETING 1981 11	23

RE: ANIMAL CONTROL

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. *THAT the recommendations of the Chief Licence Inspector be adopted.*

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1981 November 20

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER

FROM: CHIEF LICENCE INSPECTOR

RE: ANIMAL CONTROL

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the following dog licence fees, impoundment fees and cremation disposal fees be adopted effective 1982 January 01:

(i) Dog licence fees:	
Male dog	\$25.00
Neutered male dog	10.00
Female dog	25.00
Spayed female dog	10.00
(ii) Impoundment fees:	
Licensed dog	25.00
Unlicensed dog	40.00 plus licence fee
Board fees	3.00 per day
Violation ticket:	
Licensed dog	25.00
Unlicensed dog	40.00 plus licence fee
(iii) Cremation disposal fees:	
Commercial users	.15 per pound

and;

2. THAT local veterinarian clinics pay cremation disposal fees as set out in Burnaby Dog Tax and Pound and Animal Regulation By-law 1972, By-law No. 6191.

SUMMARY

This report recommends an increase in dog licence fees, impoundment fees and cremation disposal fees effective 1982 January 01. It also recommends a change in policy whereby local veterinarian clinics will be required to pay cremation disposal fees for all animal carcasses originating from their business.

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REPORT

1. BY-LAW

The Burnaby Dog Tax and Pound and Animal Regulation By-law 1972, No. 6191, provides for the licencing of dogs; impounding of dogs and other animals running at large; disposal of unlicensed dogs; cremation of animal carcasses, and establishes the appropriate fees. Current fees are:

(i) <u>Licence Fees:</u>	
Male dog	\$21.00
Neutered male dog	6.00
Female dog	21.00
Spayed female dog	6.00

Certification of sterilization must be provided to establish eligibility for the spayed or neutered rate. Owners of dogs which are too old or have been medically certified as physically unable to undergo the surgical process of sterilization are eligible for the \$6.00 rate. Also, dog owners who submit their currently licenced pet for sterilization may apply for a \$15.00 refund of the licence fee.

(ii) Impoundment Fees:

Licensed dog	\$15.00
Unlicensed dog	30.00 plus licence
Violation tickets:	
Licensed dog	15.00
Unlicensed dog	30.00 plus licence
Board fees	2.00 per day

(iii) Cremation Disposal Fees:

Up to 1,000 pounds within the calendar month	.10 per pound
Each additional pound	.07½ per pound

The fees have been in effect since 1975. At the time they were adopted, Council directed that \$1.00 of the licence fee be designated to cover cremation disposal costs of dogs.

2. STERILIZATION

In 1976 the Municipality participated in an educational program to encourage responsible pet ownership. This program was conducted throughout the Greater Vancouver area. As an extension to this program we made a financial contribution to the development of a low cost sterilization clinic operated by the S.P.C.A. Prior to this program, approximately 38% of the dogs of record were sterilized. Since that time, the figure has steadily risen to 2/3rds of the licenced dogs. This gratifying result reflects a much greater sense of responsibility on the part of owners of dogs. However, the success of the program means a reduction in licence revenue of \$15.00 per sterilized dog.

3. COSTS AND REVENUE

The 1982 provisional cost estimates for animal control and operation of the animal shelter and incinerator are \$254,720.

The 1982 provisional estimates for licence and pound revenues are \$116,750.

The estimated deficit is \$137,970.

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4. PROPOSED RATES

To meet increasing costs it is proposed that dog licence fees, impoundment fees and cremation disposal charges be increased effective 1982 January 01. The proposed fees are:

(i) Dog Licence Fees

	<u>Proposed 1982</u>	<u>Current 1981</u>
Male dog	\$25.00	\$21.00
Neutered male dog	10.00	6.00
Female dog	25.00	21.00
Spayed female dog	10.00	6.00
<u>(ii) Impoundment Fees</u>		
Licensed dog	25.00	15.00
Unlicensed dog	40.00 plus licence	30.00 plus licence
Board fees - daily	3.00	2.00
Violation tickets:		
Licensed dog	25.00	15.00
Unlicensed dog	40.00 plus licence	30.00 plus licence

(iii) Cremation Disposal Fees

.15 per pound .10 per pound

The current incineration rate of 10¢ per pound is applicable to any user approved by Council. The City of New Westminster is the only approved user. They average 7,000 to 8,000 pounds annually from their animal shelter.

Incineration service is provided to local veterinarian clinics. Based on Council's direction that \$1.00 of the dog licence fee be designated toward disposal costs (per Item i), no charges to veterinarian clinics have been levied for this service.

During 1980, 118,300 pounds of material were processed through our incinerator. Approximately 50% originated from local veterinarian clinics (51,000 pounds), and the New Westminster Pound (8,000 pounds). The remainder originated from our own operations, including document and drug destruction for the R.C.M.P.

The increasing cost of incinerator fuel and maintenance (current replacement of hearth refractory liner estimated at \$18,000 - life expectancy three years) necessitates that we recover costs wherever possible. Therefore it is recommended that the proposed rate of 15¢ per pound be applicable to all commercial users of the incinerator, including local veterinarian clinics. Based on 1980 use, this would produce an estimated additional \$8,800, representing approximately 50% of the fuel and maintenance costs.

It is recognized that the veterinarian clinics have not been charged in the past but fuel and maintenance costs are increasing to the extent that it is considered that the clinic operators should pay for this service. As stated previously, in the past it was considered that \$1.00 of the licence fee would be designated for cremation of dogs. This would no longer be the case. If Council approves this change in policy, a letter will be sent to all clinic operators informing them of the change.

Application of the proposed fees would increase the 1982 revenue by an estimated \$48,000.

5. OTHER AREAS

A survey of surrounding areas determined that their 1981 fees range as follows:

<u>Dog Licence</u>		<u>Proposed Burnaby 1982 Rate</u>
Unsterilized dog	\$ 7 to \$22	\$25.00
Sterilized dog	5 to 10	10.00
<u>Pound Fees</u>		
Licensed dog	12 to 25	25.00
Unlicensed dog	20 to 50	40.00
Board fees	2 to 4	3.00
Cremation disposal fees	15¢ per pound average	.15 per pound

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6. CONCLUSION

The proposed increases are intended to offset the rising costs of operating our animal control program. The majority of services provided through the program are oriented toward the control of dogs. The recommended licence and pound fees will cause dog owners to pay an equitable portion of the costs of operating our animal control program.

It is recognized that other community services are provided by the animal control facilities. Such services include pickup and disposal of carcasses of domestic or wild animals from streets and all areas throughout the Municipality. This often includes the remains of deer, moose, etc., dumped by hunters, or other animals which have died from natural causes. Other such services are rescue of animals or birds that are injured or have become misplaced, or are creating a hazard or nuisance in the community, and the care and custody of animals which may be temporarily homeless as a result of accident, fire, illness or death of an owner, or any situation in which the keeping of animals or their presence is creating a problem in the community. Since these services are necessary and beneficial to the entire community, it follows that a portion of animal control costs should be carried by general revenue.



P. Kenzie
CHIEF LICENCE INSPECTOR

cc: Municipal Treasurer