

ITEM 18
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 14
COUNCIL MEETING 88/02/22

RE: ANIMAL CONTROL: 1988 S.P.C.A. CONTRACT

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the recommendation of the Director Finance be adopted.

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER

1988 February 17

FROM: DIRECTOR FINANCE

File: C60 SPCA

RE: ANIMAL CONTROL: 1988 S.P.C.A. CONTRACT

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the contract with the S.P.C.A. be renewed for the period 1988 January 01 to 1988 December 31 at a cost of \$257,785, plus 35% commission on dog licence fees collected by the S.P.C.A., as outlined in this report; and
2. THAT the terms and conditions outlined in this report be retroactive to 1988 January 01.

SUMMARY

The S.P.C.A. propose to provide poundkeeping services to the municipality in 1988 at a total cost 4.5% higher than in 1987. The increase results from S.P.C.A. operational costs and costs associated with the S.P.C.A. night emergency service. Their proposal would maintain the same basic level of service as in 1987.

REPORT

1. INTRODUCTION

The poundkeeping contract with the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (S.P.C.A.) expired 1987 December 31. Council on 1987 December 14 approved a recommendation that "the S.P.C.A. continue to provide the services of a poundkeeper on a month to month basis until 1988 February 29, under the terms and conditions of the 1987 contract provided, however, that the rate to be negotiated for services to be performed in 1988 shall be retroactive to 1988 January 01."

A contract proposal for 1988 has been received from the S.P.C.A. and reviewed by staff. This report outlines the services provided by the S.P.C.A. to the municipality and presents the terms and conditions of the proposed 1988 poundkeeping contract.

2. SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE S.P.C.A.

As municipal poundkeeper, the S.P.C.A. provides the following services in Burnaby:

- Enforcement of the Burnaby Dog Tax and Pound and Animal Regulation By-law
- Investigation of reported biting or savaging of persons or other animals
- Care and disposition of impounded animals
- Sale of licences
- Administration of the animal shelter
- Removal of dead and injured animals from streets and public areas
- Operation of the animal crematorium
- Door to door dog licence canvass

A statistical overview of these services as provided by the S.P.C.A. through the poundkeeping operations from 1984 to 1987 is presented below:

	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>
Complaints recorded	1004	967	982	1355
Dogs and other animals impounded	1116	847	900	820
Dog bitings investigated	44	42	67	83
Violation tickets issued	350	277	236	224
Impounded dogs and other animals redeemed	514	498	507	399
Impounded dogs euthanized	323	193	186	199
Dead animals removed from streets	385	320	304	336
Additionally, at the request of owners, the S.P.C.A. euthanized dogs and cats	569	542	643	506

As reflected in these statistics, there were two noteworthy increases in 1987 activity. First, the number of complaints recorded and investigated was 40% higher in 1987 than in 1986. Second, the number of dog bitings reported to and investigated by the municipal pound was up 24% in 1987 over 1986, and up almost 100% over 1985.

We have reviewed these trends with our poundkeeper and have concluded that the increased number of complaints and reported bitings is a reflection of the heightened sensitivity and concern in the community regarding pit bulls and high profile vicious dog incidents. As a result, Burnaby residents are reporting bitings and other situations involving dogs which in the past had gone unreported, and the S.P.C.A. is spending more time and resources investigating and resolving resident complaints.

In addition, staff have studied the problem of vicious dog control as part of the animal control review. A report on this review will be presented to Council on 1988 February 29.

3. PROPOSED 1988 POUNDKEEPING CONTRACT

The S.P.C.A. has submitted a 1988 contract proposal to provide municipal poundkeeping services at a cost of \$257,785 plus commissions to be paid on dog licence fees collected by the S.P.C.A. This represents a \$12,371 or 5.0% increase over the 1987 contract cost of \$245,414. Including commissions, the estimated cost of poundkeeper services to Burnaby would increase by \$11,671 or 4.5% in 1988 over 1987. These costs are summarized in the following table:

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1988
 Increase
 (Decrease)
 Over
 1987

Proposed
 1988
 Budget

Budget
 \$

S.P.C.A. basic contract	1986	1987	1988	1988
proposal: operating costs	Budget	Budget	Budget	Over
	\$	\$	\$	1987
	256,219	262,046	264,393	\$
Less income earned by the Society (including licence commissions from Burnaby)	26,500	31,200	32,625	1,425
NET OPERATING COSTS	229,719	230,846	231,768	922
S.P.C.A. evening patrols	1,735	3,804	3,559	(245)
S.P.C.A. park and beach patrols	10,400	10,764	10,000	(764)
S.P.C.A. night emergency service*	-	-	12,458	12,458

TOTAL S.P.C.A. CONTRACT COST 241,854 245,414 257,785 12,371 5.0%

Estimated cost to Burnaby of commissions on licence fees collected by the S.P.C.A.

TOTAL COST OF POUND SERVICE TO BURNABY 250,354 256,614 268,285 11,671 4.5%

* The S.P.C.A. has traditionally provided night emergency service (NES) to Burnaby from the regional S.P.C.A. shelter located in Vancouver. NES is provided during the hours that the municipal animal shelter is closed (generally at night). The service deals primarily with injured animals, pickup of dead animals, investigation of bitings, and provides assistance to the Burnaby Fire Department and R.C.M.P. as required. The costs of the service have been carried by the S.P.C.A. through their regional administration budget, and Burnaby has contributed to it through our S.P.C.A. poundkeeping contract.

In the past year the S.P.C.A. has computerized its accounts and for the first time is able to accurately determine the cost of providing the NES. They are also able to determine who has used the service throughout the region. In this process, the S.P.C.A. has found that the NES service is costing more than they had previously budgeted, and that municipalities such as Burnaby were paying approximately one-half the cost of providing the service.

For 1988 the S.P.C.A. have allocated the NES costs based on the use of each municipality made of the service in 1987. In 1987 Burnaby had approximately 175 NES calls, which was 11% of the regional calls. This will result in Burnaby's NES contribution increasing by approximately \$6,000 to \$12,458 in 1988. We have isolated the NES charges in the preceding table.

We believe the NES is essential to our animal control program in Burnaby, and that it is reasonable for the S.P.C.A. to pass along our portion of the costs to us.

The reduced 1988 cost of S.P.C.A. evening, park and beach patrols stems from the two patrols being combined. This has resulted in more efficient use of the patrol staff, while continuing to provide effective coverage.

Funds for the S.P.C.A. contract are provided in the 1988 provisional budget. Funds for the park and beach patrol program are included in the Recreation and Cultural Services department budget.

The S.P.C.A. estimate that their total program cost will be \$290,410 or \$32,625 higher than our contract costs. This additional amount, borne by the S.P.C.A., is used to provide humane care and treatment of animals, as well as public education programs, and comes from adoption fees, public donations and commissions earned on dog licence sales.

The proposed 1988 contract would maintain the 1987 level of services. The basic services include providing animal shelter and community patrols as outlined below:

A. Hours that the animal shelter will be open to the public are:

Monday to Friday	9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday	9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Twenty-four hour emergency service is provided for injured animals, pickup of dead animals, investigations of bitings or savaging of persons, and assistance to the Burnaby Fire Department and R.C.M.P.

B. Hours of general community patrol will be:

Monday	9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday to Friday	7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Saturday	7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

C. Hours of evening and park/beach patrol will be:

A five day week covering the weekend; 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. one week and 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. the following week; April through September.

In 1987 the S.P.C.A. carried out the annual municipal door to door dog licence canvass in the south half of the municipality. In 1988 the S.P.C.A. will conduct the canvass in the north half.

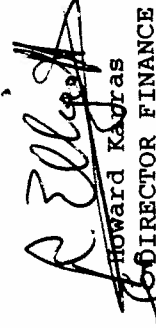
As in 1987, the S.P.C.A. will earn a commission rate of 35% on all licence fees collected. This includes fees collected through the municipal animal shelter and the door to door canvass.

4. CONCLUSION

The S.P.C.A. continues to provide an effective poundkeeping service to the municipality. The poundkeeping duties are integrated with humane animal care, which results in a comprehensive service that is essential to the needs of the community.

It is recommended that the contract with the S.P.C.A. be renewed for the period 1988 January 01 to 1988 December 31 at a cost of \$257,785, plus 35% commission on dog licence fees collected by the S.P.C.A. as outlined in this report.

It is also recommended that the terms and conditions outlined in this report be retroactive to 1988 January 01.


 HOWARD KADRAS
 DIRECTOR FINANCE

RE: gw

cc: Director Recreation & Cultural Services
 S.P.C.A.
 Municipal Solicitor