

ITEM	2
MANAGER'S REPORT NO.	64
COUNCIL MEETING	91/11/04

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER
FROM: DIRECTOR FINANCE
SUBJECT: 1992 ANIMAL CONTROL FEES

1991 October 30

PURPOSE: To provide the information requested by Council on October 28th

=====

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT this report be received for information purposes.

REPORT

Council, on 1991 October 28, received and tabled the staff report proposing a 4% (rounded) increase in the 1992 animal control/dog licence fees. In the subsequent discussion, staff were asked to review and report on various aspects of the fees.

The following presents the questions raised by Council, followed by comments from staff:

1. Are individuals obtaining a dog or moving into Burnaby after March 1st, charged the full licence fee?

The two-tiered licence fee structure continues the incentive program that was implemented in 1989 to encourage prompt payment of dog licence fees. Provisions have been made to assess new dog owners or individuals that move into Burnaby throughout the year the reduced or pre-March 1st fee.

2. Do the escalating pound fees discourage individuals from reclaiming their pets?

Our animal shelter superintendent advises that there has been no appreciable change in the number of owners that reclaim their dogs since the implementation of escalating impound fees. He advises that approximately six dogs per year are not reclaimed with the explanation that the impound fees are too high. With the exception of dogs considered to be vicious, all of these have been adopted out to other individuals or families.

3. Should there be a set fee for the cremation of cats?

For animals under 25 lbs., there is a minimum charge of \$6.25 (\$6.50 proposed for 1992) for cremation services. This minimum charge would accommodate most cats. The per pound cremation charge is needed to accommodate service to veterinarians who often are disposing of more than one animal.

The animal control fee structure has been developed to provide fair and equitable fees to all pet owners, with increased emphasis being placed on owners who frequently contravene the Animal Control Bylaw. This report is provided for Council's information.