

TO: CITY MANAGER

1999 November 30

FROM: DIRECTOR FINANCE

SUBJECT: 2000 ANIMAL CONTROL FEES

PURPOSE: To provide information requested by Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** Council receive this report for information.

R E P O R T

At the 1999 November 22 Council meeting, Council requested additional information on the tabled report recommending changes to the animal control fees for 2000. Specifically, Council requested the rationale for the increase in the licence fee for spay/neutered dogs, particularly the increase in dog licences purchased after March 01, and the rationale for increased boarding fees for cats as it relates to promoting the retrieval and adoption of cats from the shelter. This report provides the information requested by Council.

DOG LICENCE FEES

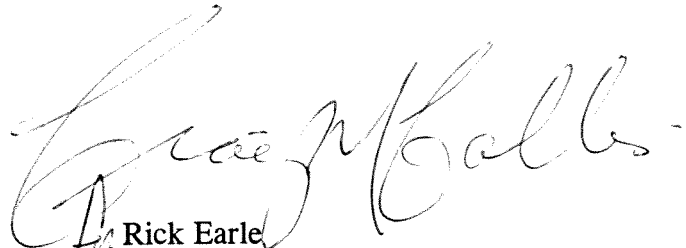
The dog licence fees are structured to encourage the spaying or neutering of dogs and the timely compliance with the licencing requirements of the Animal Control Bylaw. The proposed increase in licence fees would be the first in four years. The fees would have a \$15.00 base fee charged for spayed or neutered dogs, while owners of unaltered dogs would pay a \$25.00 premium for a dog licence. An additional \$10.00 would be charged for dog licences purchased after March 01. Throughout the year, residents licencing a newly acquired dog are not required to pay the \$10.00 late charge. The proposed licence fees are rounded for convenience.

A survey of dog licence fees in the region indicates our base fee and both premium charges are below the regional average for the same charges.

BOARDING FEES FOR CATS

The proposed increase in boarding fees would be the first in four years and has been rounded to the dollar for convenience. The increase in boarding fees for cats has been discussed with our Animal Shelter Superintendent who advises the increase will not impact on the promotion of cat retrieval and adoption from the shelter. Few cats are retrieved by owners from the shelter (two of sixty cats on average per month) and the boarding charges are not an issue in the retrieval of their pets. In adoption situations the new owners are not charged boarding fees.

This report is for the information of Council.



Rick Earle
DIRECTOR FINANCE

CMC:dm.

cc: City Solicitor
Animal Shelter Superintendent