

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – MARCH 4, 2002

ANIMAL CONTROL CONTRACT – KENNEL INN INC.

Recommendation

The Director of Legal Services, in consultation with the Director of Purchasing Services, the Senior Manager of By-law Enforcement and the Manager of Licensing, Special Projects and Permits recommends that the contract with Kennel Inn Inc., for animal control services be renewed for a three year period commencing April 1, 2002 through March 30, 2005; and

That a by-law be enacted to authorize the Mayor and the City Clerk to execute the necessary agreement.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council approval of the animal control contract with Kennel Inn Inc.

Background - Analysis and Options

Kennel Inn Inc. has been under contract with the City of Vaughan since 1995 to provide animal control services. The current contract expired on December 31, 2001, however, as a report was coming forward on the Comprehensive Animal Control By-law, which would have additional requirements for service, the contract was extended to March 31, 2002. Council enacted the Animal Control By-law on February 11, 2002, and the additional requirements have been reviewed with Kennel Inn Inc.

A search was conducted by the Purchasing Department to determine if there were other companies that provide this service, and they determined that Kennel Inn Inc. is the only company in York Region. Kennel Inn Inc. provides animal control services to the majority of municipalities in York Region with three year term contracts. The level of service provided to the City of Vaughan has generally been satisfactory since 1995.

Staff have met with a principal of Kennel Inn Inc., and they are prepared to enter into a contract, for a three year period commencing April 1, 2002.

The expiring contract was for \$199,377. per year (pre-GST) plus additional fees for isolation (quarantine) expenses and overtime costs incurred by Kennel Inn Inc., for unforeseen circumstances outside the regular hours of coverage (usually \$1000 per year).

Presently, Kennel Inn Inc. responds to dog-running at large calls, and stray animals, whether dogs or other animals (raccoons, skunks, etc.) The coverage is six days a week, Monday to Saturday, usually 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., with two vehicles.

The value of the proposed contract is now \$225,300. per year with no additional fees beyond the contract amount, including any additional hours for overtime. This is the first requested increase in the contract since 1995, and the request is partly based on increased costs (e.g. gas, salaries, etc), and partly on additional services.

Kennel Inn Inc., will be performing additional work pursuant to the new Animal Control By-law. They will be responding to calls regarding cats, and will be dealing with inquiries and complaints regarding prohibited animals, including assisting people in arranging for removal.

They will also be responding to calls regarding barking dogs, and will be patrolling to enforce the "stoop and scoop" provisions of the by-law.

If, in responding to calls regarding injured animals, an animal needs treatment by a veterinarian, these fees are included in the contract, as is the same with surrounding municipalities.

Quarterly reports are provided to By-law Enforcement for monitoring of service calls.

As with the previous contracts, Kennel Inn Inc. will retain the funds for animal licenses sold by them, estimated to represent a \$3,000. value. This item has been included previously in the contracts, and assists in controlling the overall cost increases of this service contract.

Conclusion

Kennel Inn Inc. is the only company providing animal control services in York Region. They have performed well over the past six years without an increase in their fees. We have reviewed Kennel Inn Inc.'s contracts with Markham and Richmond Hill and the proposed contract is comparable.

Kennel Inn Inc. has agreed to provide more enforcement related services, and incorporate costs that previously had no cap into the contract. Funding for this contract is included in the By-law Enforcement Operating Budget.

Attachments

None

Report prepared by:

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Respectfully submitted,

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Director of Legal Services