

Pet Licensing Rates – 2021

Recommendation

That the pet licensing rates for 2021, effective January 1, 2021, as included in the proposed 2020/2021 Preliminary Business Plan and Budget, be approved.

Issue

Administration is requesting approval that pet licensing rates remain at the approved 2020 rate for 2021.

Background

During its 2019 Business Plan and Budget Review meeting, City Council approved a two-year rate increase for pet licensing (for 2019 and 2020).

The Animal Services Section is responsible for collection of pet license revenue, marketing of programs and events, Bylaw Enforcement through the management of contracts with the Saskatoon Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) and Saskatoon Animal Control Agency (SACA), program development (including the Subsidized Spay and Neuter Program) and development and maintenance of off leash dog parks.

Discussion/Analysis

Pet License Rate for 2021

Revenue generated from the approved 2019 and 2020 pet licensing rates are sufficient to offset contract increases for the SPCA and SACA, as well as increases in anticipated operating costs for Animal Services programs, services and amenities. Therefore there is no rate increase required for 2021.

Table 1, shown below, illustrates current approved rates for 2019, 2020 and proposed 2021 rates, which commence January 1 of each year. Table 1 also illustrates the average pet licensing rates for dogs and cats from six other Canadian municipalities.

Table 1:

Category	2019 Approved Rate	2020 Approved Rate	2021 Proposed Rate	Other Municipalities Average Rate
Dog - Un-spayed/Un-neutered	\$58.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$70.00
Dog - Spayed/Neutered	\$29.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$33.00
Cat - Un-spayed/Un-neutered	\$36.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$53.00
Cat - Spayed/Neutered	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00
Juvenile Dog (under 1 year)	\$29.00	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$33.00
Juvenile Cat (under 1 year)	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00
Service Dog	Free	Free	Free	Free
Tag Replacement	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$13.00

A recent review of pet licensing rates and fees among municipalities such as Calgary, Alberta; Edmonton, Alberta; Lethbridge, Alberta; London, Ontario; Regina, Saskatchewan; and Winnipeg, Manitoba, show that even with proposed increases in both 2019 and 2020, the City of Saskatoon’s rate will be equal to or less than the average pet licensing rates in those municipalities investigated.

Subject to City Council’s approval, to maintain the licensing rates for 2021 at the same level as the 2020 rates, no further amendment to Bylaw No. 7860, The Animal Control Bylaw, 1999, is required.

Implications

Using the proposed pet licensing rates and projected volumes, and based on historical averages, the following chart illustrates expected revenue for the next two years:

Year	Revenue
2019 Budget	\$667,600
2020 Projected	\$702,500
2021 Projected	\$702,500

Based on pet licensing volume projections, the proposed 2021 rate, no increase from the 2020 rate, provides sufficient revenue to address operating expenses and service level expectations.

There are no legal, social, policy or environmental implications identified.