

Pet Licensing Rates and Fees for 2024 to 2025

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the proposed 2024 and 2025 rates and fees for Pet Licensing, as included in the 2024/2025 Preliminary Business Plan and Budget, be approved; and
2. That the City Solicitor be instructed to draft the appropriate amendments to Bylaw No. 7860, Animal Control Bylaw, 1999 and Bylaw No. 8176, The Dangerous Animals Bylaw, 2003.

ISSUE

Since the last rate increase, the Animal Services Section has seen increases in operational costs. The present City Council approved rates end December 31, 2023. This report details the proposed rates and fees for 2024 and 2025, as included in the 2024/2025 Preliminary Business Plan and Budget.

BACKGROUND

At its 2021 Business Plan and Budget Review meeting, City Council approved a two-year rate increase for pet licensing for 2022 and 2023.

The Animal Services Section is responsible for collection of pet license revenue, marketing of programs, events, bylaw enforcement through the management of contracts for bylaw enforcement and pound keeping services, program development (including the Subsidized Spay and Neuter Program), and the development and maintenance of off-leash dog parks.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

Proposed Pet License Rate for 2024 and 2025

Revenue generated from the proposed rate in pet licensing rates is intended to help offset contract increases for bylaw enforcement and pound keeping, as well as increases in anticipated operating costs for Animal Services programs, services and amenities.

Table 1, shown below, illustrates current approved rates for 2023 and proposed 2024 and 2025 rates, which would commence January 1, 2024. Table 1 also illustrates the average current pet licensing rates from other Canadian municipalities.

Table 1:

Category	2023 Approved Rate	2024 Proposed Rate	2025 Proposed Rate	Other Cities Average Current Rate
Dog – Un-spayed/Un-neutered	\$62.00	\$71.50	\$73.50	\$73.00
Dog – Spayed/Neutered	\$31.00	\$35.00	\$36.00	\$37.00
Cat – Un-spayed/Un-neutered	\$42.00	\$48.50	\$50.00	\$46.00

Cat – Spayed/Neutered	\$19.00	\$22.00	\$22.50	\$18.00
Juvenile Dog (under 1 year)	\$31.00	\$35.00	\$36.00	\$37.00
Juvenile Cat (under 1 year)	\$19.00	\$22.00	\$22.50	\$18.00
Service Dog	Free	Free	Free	Free
Tag Replacement	\$10.00	\$11.00	\$11.00	\$8.00
Fee per Animal Retrieved by Bylaw Enforcement	\$50.00	\$55.00	\$55.00	N/A

Administration reviewed current pet licensing rates and fees in the cities of Abbotsford, Calgary, Edmonton, Hamilton, Lethbridge, London, Regina, Surrey, Toronto, Vancouver, Victoria, and Winnipeg. The proposed City of Saskatoon pet licensing rates and fees continue to be comparable to rates in other municipalities investigated.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

Year	2023 Budget Approved	2024 Projected	2025 Projected
Total Revenue	\$791,200	\$895,000	\$922,100

Based on pet licensing volume projections, the proposed rate increases provide additional revenue to offset increases in operating expenses.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Amendments to Bylaw No. 7860, Animal Control Bylaw, 1999 and Bylaw No. 8176, The Dangerous Animals Bylaw, 2003, are required for implementation of the proposed fee changes.

Business Line: Community Support

SP/2023/RCD/Budget/Pet Licensing Rates and Fees for 2024 to 2025/jdw