

Pet Licensing Rates and Fees for 2019 and 2020

The purpose of this report is to recommend the proposed increase to pet licensing rates and fees for 2019 and 2020.

Background

During its 2016 Business Plan and Budget Review meeting, City Council approved a rate increase for pet licensing for 2017. There was no change to the pet licensing rates in 2018.

The Animal Services Section is responsible for the 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 the development and maintenance of off-leash dog parks.

Report

Proposed Pet License Rate Increases for 2019 and 2020

Since the last rate increase for pet licensing in 2017, the Animal Services Section has seen increases in operational costs, as well as growing demand for enhancements to the current service level. Revenue generated through the proposed increase in pet licensing rates will offset contract increases for the SPCA and SACA, as well as increases in anticipated operating costs for Animal Services programs, services, and amenities.

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

Table 1:

Category	2018 Approved Rate	2019 Proposed Rate	2020 Proposed Rate	Other Municipalities Average Rate
<u>Dog</u> Un-spayed/Un-neutered	\$56.00	\$58.00	\$60.00	\$70.00
<u>Dog</u> Spayed/Neutered	\$28.00	\$29.00	\$30.00	\$33.00
<u>Cat</u> Un-spayed/Un-neutered	\$33.00	\$36.00	\$40.00	\$53.00
<u>Cat</u> Spayed/Neutered	\$16.50	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00
Juvenile Dog (under 1 year)	\$28.00	\$29.00	\$30.00	\$33.00
Juvenile Cat (under 1 year)	\$16.50	\$18.00	\$18.00	\$18.00
Service Dog	Free	Free	Free	Free
Tag Replacement	\$ 5.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$13.00

A recent review of pet licensing rates and fees among municipalities such as Calgary, AB; Edmonton, AB; Lethbridge, AB; London, ON; Regina, SK; and Winnipeg, MB, 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, the City Solicitor will be requested to amend Bylaw No. 7860, The Animal Control Bylaw, 1999, to reflect the proposed annual licensing fees for cats and dogs.

Financial 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
2018 Budget	(\$642,700)
2019 Projected	(\$692,600)
2020 Projected	(\$711,700)

Based on pet licensing volume projections, the proposed rate increases provide sufficient revenue to address increases in operating expenses and service level expectations.

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