



TOWN OF NEWMARKET
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May 13, 2014

**CORPORATE SERVICES – LEGISLATIVE SERVICES
INFORMATION REPORT – 2014-13**

TO: Mayor Van Bynen and Members of Council

COPY: SLT, OLT
Florence DiPassio, Licensing Officer

FROM: Andrew Brouwer, Director, Legislative Services/Town Clerk

SUBJECT: Town of Newmarket position on continued animal shelter services partnership with Town of Georgina

COMMENTS


Purpose

Staff is in receipt of an April 17, 2014 letter from Ryan Cronsberry, Manager of Municipal Law Enforcement, Town of Georgina (see Attachment "A") requesting the Town's position on an interest in a continued partnership with the Town of Georgina for the delivery of animal shelter services. The purpose of this information report is to outline a staff response. In accordance with the Procedure By-law, any Member of Council may request this Information Report be placed on an upcoming Committee of the Whole agenda for discussion.

Animal Service Programs

In 2007, along with the municipalities of East Gwillimbury and Whitchurch-Stouffville, Newmarket entered into a five-year contract with Georgina to provide animal shelter services. The contract provides for five, one-year extensions and Newmarket is currently in the second of the five, one-year extensions. Previous to the current contract, Newmarket has had a long history of contracting shelter services with Georgina. In 2013, Newmarket paid \$94,449 (before HST) for shelter services (includes fixed operating costs and variable costs based on the number of Newmarket dogs and cats sheltered).

In addition to animal control services, the Town also contracts animal control services and has a dog and cat licensing program, which helps to offset the cost of animal control and shelter services and promotes the concept of responsible pet ownership.



Shelter Expansion Proposal

On April 2, 2014, Georgina Council heard a deputation and presentation from a Georgina resident related to her perspective on the future needs of the shelter and proposed a fund-raising initiative for the eventual replacement or rehabilitation of the shelter. In general terms, the resident recommended facility replacements and enhancements for pet adoption, enhanced animal care, living space, educational and the potential for pet cemetery functions. A copy of the resident's presentation slides and speaking notes are available from the Legislative Services Department.

In response to the resident's deputation and presentation, Georgina Council passed the resolution noted in Mr. Cronsberry's letter in Attachment "A" to this Information Report. As noted, Georgina Council requested Newmarket's position on continuing to partner with the Town of Georgina in the delivery of animal shelter services to assist in assessing future shelter needs.

Town of Newmarket Response

In staff's view, the current contract for shelter services and Newmarket's working relationship with Georgina has been positive and has served the needs of Newmarket residents well. Newmarket will continue in its partnership with Georgina within the current terms of its contract. Within the next two years, Newmarket staff will evaluate its animal shelter service needs again and determine an appropriate approach to securing such services, with the understanding that the Town has certainly benefitted from working collaboratively with our municipal partners.

At the present time, an expanded level of shelter service has not been contemplated by Newmarket at a strategic level through Council's Strategic Priorities, or at an operational level. In terms of Newmarket's animal service program priorities, efforts have been focused on improving animal control, education and licensing programs. A five-year contract for animal control services came into effect in January, 2014 with a new provider who has made improvements to service levels and educational initiatives promoting responsible pet ownership in Newmarket. In addition, staff are considering a pet licensing incentive program where licensed pet owners are provided with a rewards card used to redeem discounts and other benefits at participating local businesses, potentially increasing the number of licensed pets in Newmarket. Convenience improvements, such as online pet licence payment option are also planned.

Staff will continue to keep Council informed of the direction of the Town of Georgina with respect to animal shelter services.

BUSINESS PLAN AND STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGES

Consideration of service level enhancements for animal shelter services supports the Town's Vision, Mission and Community Strategic Plan goal of being well equipped and managed by implementing policies and processes that reflect sound and accountable governance and fiscal responsibility in achieving service excellence.

HUMAN RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

There are no human resource considerations.

CONTACT

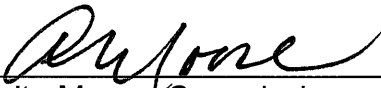
For more information on this report, contact Andrew Brouwer, Director, Legislative Services/Town Clerk (ext. 2211 or abrouwer@newmarket.ca).



Andrew Brouwer, Director, Legislative Services/
Town Clerk

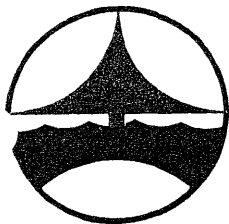


Florence DiPassio, Licensing Officer



Anita Moore, Commissioner, Corporate Services

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TOWN OF GEORGINA

26557 Civic Centre Rd., Keswick, Ontario L4P 3G1

April 17, 2014

Mr. Andrew Brouwer
Director, Legislative Services, Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive
P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

CORPORATE SERVICES		
INCOMING MAIL	REFD TO	COPY TO
APR 23 2014		
Andrew		
Florence		
in memo		

Re: Animal Shelter Services-Expression of Interest for Future Partnership

Dear Mr. Brouwer:

At its meeting on April 2, 2014, Council of the Town of Georgina received a presentation and deputation from Margaret Quirk, a Georgina resident, regarding the future needs of the Georgina Animal Shelter and Adoption Centre and proposed a fund-raising initiative for the eventual replacement and/or rehabilitation of the shelter. At the meeting, Council adopted Resolution No. C-0214-0214 as follows:

That the deputation by Margaret Quirk requesting Council direct staff report on the current status of the shelter and what would be required in future to fulfill its role in the community and to those municipalities the Town contracts services to, and that the Town consider building a reserve for construction of a new updated shelter be received and referred to the Director of Administrative Services and Treasurer to prepare an interim report for submission to Council by mid-May respecting the future needs of the animal shelter and the capital required, and the commitment from other municipalities.

This letter is to seek an "expression of interest" from the Town of Newmarket for continued partnership with the Town of Georgina for Animal Shelter services in the future. Newmarket's response will be included in the forthcoming report to Georgina's Council for consideration.

Yours truly,

Ryan Cronsberry, C.P.S.O., M.L.E.O. (c)
Manager of Municipal Law Enforcement/C.M.L.E.O

Copy to: Rebecca Mathewson, Director of Administrative Services and Treasurer
Florence Dipassio, MAC Group Member, Town of Newmarket