

Recommendation:

That the C.A.O.-2023-10 report, dated April 4, 2023 regarding the Peterborough Humane Society Agreement be received; and
That Council approve an additional amount of \$8,000.00 from the working fund reserve to be allocated to the 2023 Animal Control budget.

Overview:

In 2022 staff worked with the Peterborough Humane Society (PHS) to review the existing services provided and revisit the financial relationship between the PHS and the Township of Douro-Dummer. As we have worked with this new agreement over the past year, we have determined we are lacking in resources to address animal control in the Township. Currently, the PHS will take in animals if they are brought to the Humane Society although there is inadequate Township staff, time, or equipment to capture and transport animals. When calls are received regarding dogs running at large, staff attempt to get a description of the dog and to find the owner or suggest to the caller that the PHS is an option if they can capture and transport the dog. This level of service is below the level expected from many of our residents.

Staff met with Mr. Morey to review the agreement and discuss options for the Township to address the need for additional service. An enhanced arrangement was discussed and in addition to what is currently provided the enhancements would include:

- PHS would provide Animal Support Staff to assist the Municipality with transport of animals within the Municipality back to PHS for impound and care
- Animal Support Staff will assist residents with fielding calls regarding animals at large, abandoned, or need of medical care
- Animal Support Staff would support the Municipality's by-law officer as required to contain and transport an at large animal within Municipal boundaries
- Includes all housing, animal care and animal support service staffing, equipment, training, supplies, PPE, food, minor & major medical (up to \$1000 per animal) during stray hold period, commercial and auto insurance, dispatch support.

Animal Support Services would be additionally billed on a monthly basis based on staff time and kilometres at the current CRA rate.

Conclusion:

Based on the revisions to the level of service and the expected increase cost of \$8,000 per year, staff feel this is the best approach to deal with our animal control needs at this time. Should Council support the proposed changes, staff will finalize the agreement with PHS for the balance of 2023.

Financial Impact:

The allocated budget for Animal Control in 2023 is \$12,000. This increase would provide an annual budget of \$20,000.