



TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Shawn Stringer, Captain, Police Department
COPY: Community Vitality & Safety Committee
PRESENTER: Shawn Stringer, Captain, Police Department
SUBJECT: Title 17 – Animal Control - Amendments
DATE: January 10, 2019

PRESENTATION TYPE:
Request for Ordinance

SUMMARY:

The proposed amendments to Title 17 will update code language to reflect current practice related to required hold time for stray animals and fees that are no longer determined or charged by the City. Staff is asking for a committee recommendation to full council for approval.

BACKGROUND:

From 1992 through 2005 the City contracted with the TPCHS for animal sheltering, animal control and animal licensing services. Beginning January 1, 2006 the City assumed responsibility for animal control and licensing services and has continued to contract for animal sheltering services with the Humane Society. Fees related to animals being sheltered by TPCHS have always been determined by TPCHS.

ISSUE:

TMC 17.01 – Animal Control General Provisions – currently provides for a required 48 hour hold period when stray animals are picked up by City Animal Control Officers or citizens and taken to TPCHS for sheltering. In practice however, to allow more time to reunite pets with their owners, a three-day hold has been applied by TPCHS on behalf of the City for many years. The proposed amendments to 17.01 will reflect current practice and in addition remove specific fee amounts that are no longer determined or charged by the City.

Proposed amendments to TMC 17.03 – Problem Pet Owner – are clean-up of language to clarify the process when the City determines a person to be a problem pet owner.

ALTERNATIVES:

The alternative is to require a different hold period, however, the recommended amount of time by staff is a three-day hold period, which has been practiced by TPCHS on behalf of the City for many years and is a common business practice for animal shelters.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the proposed amendments to Title 17 be forwarded to the City Council for approval.