

CITY OF FORT SASKATCHEWAN

Bylaw C11-15, a bylaw of the City of Fort Saskatchewan to amend Fees & Charges Bylaw C26-14

Motions:

1. That Council give first reading to Bylaw C11-15, which amends Fees & Charges Bylaw C26-14, providing for the inclusion of kennel fees.
2. That Council give second reading to Bylaw C11-15, which amends Fees & Charges Bylaw C26-14, providing for the inclusion of kennel fees.
3. That Council provide unanimous consent to proceed with third and final reading to Bylaw C11-15, which amends Fees & Charges Bylaw C26-14, providing for the inclusion of kennel fees.
4. That Council give third reading to Bylaw C11-15, which amends Fees & Charges Bylaw C26-14, providing for the inclusion of kennel fees.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to present Council with information and a request to give three readings to Bylaw C11-15, which amends Fees & Charges Bylaw C26-14, providing for the inclusion of kennel fees.

Background:

On March 15, 2015, the City took over the provision of animal control services previously provided by a contractor. This service includes the recovery and temporary housing of lost and found animals. It is typical to charge kennel impound fees for housing found animals, which is a nominal fee designed for cost recovery of any related expenses, such as food and kennels.

A review of our neighboring municipalities (noted below) revealed that a daily fee of \$20 is within the range for this service.

- City of St. Albert - charges \$37.15 per day
- City of Leduc - charges \$20 per day
- Parkland County - charges \$22.50 per day
- Strathcona County - charges \$80 per day (fines are often waived in lieu of the kennel impound fees)

The current housing facility for found animals is within the existing RCMP detachment building. This arrangement will continue even after the building is turned over to the new tenants later this year. The rear secure garage bay has key access from the outside and has a completely separate heating and ventilating system. This arrangement will be written into the lease and is fully acceptable to the new tenants, as they have no current plans for utilizing this space. The long-term plan for housing found animals is to utilize a garage bay in the new detachment building and to eventually have a serviced outbuilding on the new detachment site for this purpose.

All of the City's Community Peace Officers have been trained in provincial standards for safe animal handling and short-term housing of recovered animals.

In the event a found animal does not have a current license, the owner will be required to purchase a license prior to the release of their animal.

Plans/Standards/Legislation:

- **Strategic Plan** - An effective approach to Animal Control contributes to Goal 3 of Council's Strategic Plan, "to foster a liveable and safe community."
- **Community Sustainability Plan** - The goal of a Compassionate Community & Sense of Community notes the action, "improve animal bylaw", to ensure all members of the community feel safe.

Financial Implications:

A small amount of revenue will be received as a result of instituting a kennel fee.

External Communications/Participation:

Community education and awareness will continue to be a strong component for the implementation of the new in-house service for animal control. Public messaging is an effective tool to raise awareness of our community standards relating to animal control, and Protective Services is making good use of this avenue through the local radio station, the City's social media program, newspapers and our portable signs, which are placed in problem areas.

Alternatives:

1. That Council give three readings to Bylaw C11-15, which amends Fees & Charges Bylaw C26-14, providing for the inclusion of kennel fees.
2. That Council not give three readings to Bylaw C11-15, which amends Fees & Charges Bylaw C26-14, providing for the inclusion of kennel fees, and advise how they wish to proceed.

Attachments:

1. Bylaw C11-15 – Amending Fees & Charges Bylaw C26-14

Prepared by:	Josie Krokis Director, Protective Services	Date: March 16, 2015
Approved by:	Brenda Rauckman General Manager, Corporate and Protective Services	Date: March 18, 2015
Reviewed by:	Troy Fleming, Acting City Manager	Date: March 19, 2015
Submitted to:	City Council	Date: March 24, 2015