

JOURNAL OF COMMISSION WORK SESSIONS
October 2, 2007

City Commission Work Session

Mayor Dona Stebbins presiding

CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL: City Commissioners present: Mayor Stebbins, Bill Beecher, Sandy Hinz, Diane Jovick-Kuntz and John Rosenbaum. Also present were the City Manager, Assistant City Manager, Director of Fiscal Services, Police Chief, Acting Director of Public Works, and the Acting City Clerk.

1. ANIMAL SHELTER TOUR

Chief Grove distributed a handout of Animal Control/Shelter Short Term and Long Term Recommendations which was created by Kim Staton after her assessment of the shelter in August of 2007. 79% of the recommendations have been addressed in some manner.

Lt. Bryan Lockerby then introduced Jamie Bennett as the new Animal Shelter Operations Manager.

Lt. Lockerby reported aesthetically, the shelter has greatly improved.

- a volunteer has been maintaining the flower garden out front
- the Sheriff's Department has been assisting with the cleaning of the outside of the facility as well as the signage
- the office area has had bulletin boards removed from desk areas and the telephone box, including all the wiring, was relocated, followed by a fresh coat of paint
- ceiling panels have been replaced with washable tiles in the office area
- a copier/scanner/fax has been wired to the desktops

Lt. Lockerby added they hope to add partitions to allow some privacy for the staff within the shelter office. Also uniforms will be part of a more professional-looking staff in the future. Staff training was underway and two of the animal control officers were receiving certification training in large animal cruelty investigation, four were receiving body scanning certification training. Melanie Lattin was providing dog-walking training. Lt. Lockerby noted that the shelter was not ready to accept volunteers, but they were actively seeking a Volunteer Coordinator. Also, an RFP was out for a 24-Hour Veterinarian.

The shelter hopes to eventually have a paperless system and has software on order now. Other changes have been made, making the shelter more accessible to the public. The hours have been adjusted to more of a patrol model, similar to that used by the Police Department and videos of animals are being shown on www.youtube.com.

Cleaning and sanitizing at the shelter continues to be an ongoing process. Bleach is bought by the barrel. A cleaning protocol and sealant for the walls are being evaluated. Maintaining the

health of the animals within the shelter has taken nearly three months to get under control. Vaccinations are now given at the door. Lt. Lockerby also stated that contrary to what some have heard, there is no systematic euthanization being done at the shelter. There is no decision made on any animal prior to checking with a veterinarian.

Commissioner Jovick-Kuntz inquired about tracking the number of animals being turned in by county residents as opposed to those being turned in by city residents.

Mayor Stebbins explained the problems associated with taking feral cats at the shelter.