



ST. CHARLES PARISH

PAUL J. HOGAN, PE

COUNCILMAN AT LARGE, DIVISION B

P.O. BOX 302 • HAHNVILLE, LA 70057

(985) 783-5000 • Fax: (985) 783-2067

www.stcharlesparish-la.gov

MEMORANDUM

DATE: AUGUST 8, 2016

TO: MR. LARRY COCHRAN
PARISH PRESIDENT

FROM: PAUL J. HOGAN, PE
COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE, DIVISION B

RE: ANIMAL SHELTER/HUMANE SOCIETY

Ms. Jena Troxler made a presentation to us at a Parish Council Meeting in May informing us of the activities at the Animal Shelter. Since her addressing us, I have finally had time to be able to do something I have wanted to do for years. That is to obtain and review the Parish ordinances and its agreement with the Humane Society and understand how the operation works. The information provided to me by our Council Secretary shows that there has been five (5) amendments to the original Agreement. Please review the attached and let me know if there are any our Secretary has missed. I have taken the amendments provided to me and added them to the original Agreement. Attached you will find what I see as the current form of the Agreement. Please review and let me know if this document represents the extent of the current Agreement the Parish has with the Humane Society. In the Agreement, Item 12 states there could be other services that the Parish President could agree to. Please let me know if there are any other services that you or any other Parish President had agreed to. Please send me a copy of them if there are any.

The Agreement also shows that the Parish has certain responsibilities and the Humane Society has certain responsibilities and that dollars comes into play with some. Item 1 shows that a fee of \$80 is collected by the Society for each animal adopted. Item 2 says the Society is to use the adoption fee to offset their cost to spay adopted animals in St. Charles Parish. From what Ms. Troxler informed the Council in May, I understood her to say that she was now performing the spaying instead of the Society. Please confirm if that is correct, and if it is, then it appears that the Agreement needs to be amended to account for this and to account for the \$80 fee collected and where this money is to go since it was to go to the Society for them to do the spaying. Item 7(a) also needs to be looked at since it refers to veterinarian assistance on Tuesdays. With what Ms. Troxler stated, is this veterinarian assistance still needed or applicable?

With Item 13, are the adoption records being sent to the Parish (the Council?) on a monthly basis? I do not recall ever seeing any during my time on the Council.

AUGUST 8, 2016
PAGE 2

With Item 22, the Society agrees to pay for the medical care of injured animals when they are consulted and give their prior approval for the care. I would assume the care was done by outside vets before Ms. Troxler came on board and is now being taken care of by her. Is that correct? I would assume the Society is not being contacted to get approval to pay for the medical care of injured animals since Ms. Troxler can do the service, which I would assume she is now doing. Is that correct? With respect to the money that the Society would use to pay for this, was those dollars, funds, which came from St. Charles Parish by some means to pay for this and is now being collected by them and not being spent back on us for this service? Please advise. Also, what about animals that come in that have a problem other than needing to be spayed or a problem but not due to an injury. How do animals with these other issues get treatment? Does our Agreement with the Society or our code provides for them getting attention or are do those animals just get put down? Does Ms. Troxler do surgeries on animals that come in that have issues other than injuries or spaying? Please advise.

Item 23 refers to the Society possibly assisting the Parish with the rabies vaccination program if it gets prior approval of the Parish President. Do we have a rabies vaccination program and have you or a prior Parish president given approval for this? If yes, how does it work and please send me documentation of this for my files.

In reviewing our related Parish ordinances, it looks like there is one part in there that has the possibility of some generation of funds with regards to the "Disposal for medical or scientific experimentation" (Sec. 4-53). What happens to the carcasses of animals that are euthanized? Are they given away, disposed of by some means, or do medical or scientific related entities pay for them? Please explain what happens to them and if we do get funds for them by some means, how do we use these funds?

And in general, please have the entire Agreement with the Society reviewed and see if everything in there is still applicable or if there are some things that no longer apply or needs amending here and there.

Also, please review Chapter 4 – Animals and Fowl and see if there are any changes needed in this Section of the code to account for anything that we may be doing that we should not be doing. Please advise if we need to add something that we should be doing that our code does not allow us to do, or if the code needs any amending as it relates to the job of the Animal Shelter and the Humane Society.

PJH/TKC529:ag

Attachment

cc: Parish Council
Mr. Billy Raymond, Chief Administrative Officer w/attachment
Mr. Bobby Raymond, Legal Services Director w/attachment
Ms. Jena Troxler, Animal Control Director w/attachment