

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Diane Wolfe Marlin and City Council Members
FROM: Carol Mitten, City Administrator
DATE: May 6, 2021
SUBJECT: A Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for Animal Impoundment Services – Follow-up

A few questions arose at the Committee of the Whole on May 3, 2021 concerning the captioned IGA: the first concerned the omission of “spaying/neutering” from the list of veterinary services in fourth WHEREAS clause and the second concerned the role of the City Legal Division in Section 7.

- The County pays an outside contractor to provide veterinary services, and has moved away from including this service in the fees paid under this agreement. In those cases when the Humane Society places the animal up for adoption and it is not already spayed or neutered, the Humane Society will charge this service to the adopting party.
- In Section 7, the reference to the City Legal Division is for animals under a “hold order”. The County may not dispose of the animal (by whatever means is determined to be appropriate) under a “hold order” without either a release from the Court or City Legal. City Legal has no role in determining the appropriate disposition of the animal once the “hold order” is released.

A question also arose about the City’s plan to accommodate a large number of animals should an “extraordinary event” occur (as defined in Section 4) and the County be unable to house them. The City does not have a formal plan for this eventuality. The City has a network of relationships with the Champaign County Humane Society, as well as other area humane societies, and local veterinarians with boarding facilities. If such an event were to occur, we would reach out to that network until we had found adequate capacity to house the animals in question. There are two important reasons why the plan is not more formalized: 1) the occurrence of seizing large quantities of animals is extremely infrequent and 2) we would not seize animals that we could not house. In a hoarding situation, for example, the City would have ample time to arrange for accommodating the animals prior to seizing them.