REPORT TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL
FROM: John Daly, CMO
Director of Corporate Services and Clerk
DATE: October 21, 2013
SUBJECT: Animal Control

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- Council approved amendments to the Animal Control By-law at its July 16, 2012 meeting to include the regulation of cats (feline) for the purposes of measuring the issue of stray cats.
- On average, the Township impounds 40 stray cats with the Barrie OSPCA each year.
- There is an ongoing effort by staff to reduce animal control costs and centralize services.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report from the Director of Corporate Services and Clerk regarding Animal Control, dated October 21, 2013, be received;

THAT in addition to the agreement in place with the Barrie OSPCA, that an agreement be executed with Fareway Farms for Animal Control services.

Background

Fareway Farms (Horseshoe Valley Road) is currently providing canine care services to the Township, and has expressed an interest in expanding the service to care for stray cats.

Current arrangements are in place for Fareway to care for stray dogs and the Barrie OSPCA to care for stray cats. Both service providers have met the needs of the Township.

Although Fareway Farms may be well known for canine care, they believe they can expand their animal control services to the Township at competitive rates. A long standing directive of Council has been to locate a central facility. Staff are also supportive of centralizing the care of stray animals within the Township’s municipal boundaries and are seeking approval to enter into an agreement with Fareway with a view of achieving this goal. The Barrie OSPCA agreement will remain in force until all service objectives are met by Fareway and a communication strategy put in place to promote the central site.
**Budget Implications**

Although early in discussions with Fareway Farms, the proposed fee for each cat may be 33% less than the fee for service through the Barrie OSPCA. There are approximately 40 cats each year received by the Barrie OSPCA at a cost $312.50 per cat, or $12,500. Not included in the Fareway proposal is a fee for euthanizing, which is currently the case for dogs, and is used only as a last resort. The Township covers the cost of euthanizing.

**Conclusion**

The direction by Council to centralize a pound has been long standing. With Fareway Farms proposing to expand their animal care services, a centralized site for the Township’s purposes may become a reality.

**Guiding Principles**

The above initiative supports Council’s guiding principle of:

- *Financial Management*
- *Efficient Service Delivery*

**Applicable Municipal Policy or Legislation**

- (X) Agreement Required

Submitted by: John Daly, Director of Corporate Services and Clerk
Approved by: Robert Brindley, Chief Administrative Officer
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**Background/Relevant reports on the subject:**