



AGENDA
ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
7105 WHITLEY ROAD, WATAUGA, TEXAS 76148
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2024
12:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESENTATIONS

1. Discussion about potential ordinance updates regarding Chapter 6.

PUBLIC COMMENT This is an opportunity for citizens to address the Council on items not posted on the current meeting agenda. Only those who have submitted a proper "Request to Speak Form" shall be permitted to speak. Citizens should provide their name and address for the record and will have no more than 3 minutes to speak. If representing an organization or group, the speaker should identify who they represent. Those wishing to speak are reminded 1) All comments are to be directed to the Council. 2) Be respectful of others. 3) No profanity permitted. 4) Violators will be removed from the premises. No discussion by the Council or Staff is allowed except to correct factual inaccuracies or request that the item be placed on a future agenda.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ACTION ITEMS This is an opportunity for citizens to address the Council on current agenda action items (excludes presentations and reports). Only those persons who have submitted a proper "Request to Speak Form" will be allowed to speak. Citizens will be required to state their name and address for the record. They have up to 3 minutes to speak, and their comments must be germane to the item. If speaking for an organization or group, the speaker should identify the group represented. Council members may ask questions or discuss the item with the citizens directly.

REPORTS

1. Supervisor report of shelter activities.

CONSENT AGENDA All of the items on the consent agenda are considered to be self-explanatory by the Council and will be enacted with one motion, one second, and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. Any council member wishing to pull an item may do so.

1. Consider approval of the April 24th, 2024 Animal Advisory Board meeting minutes.
Tonya DeGrand, ACO
Linda Proskey, City Secretary

ACTION ITEMS

1. Discuss and consider taking action on a recommendation to the City Council to amend Chapter 6, Sections 6-194 and 6-195 to comply with state law.
Tonya DeGrand, ACO
2. Discuss and consider action on scheduling the Animal Services Advisory Committee meetings for the year 2025.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

ADJOURNMENT

NOTICE

THIS FACILITY IS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE AND ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES ARE AVAILABLE. REQUESTS FOR ACCOMMODATIONS OR INTERPRETIVE SERVICES MUST BE MADE 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THIS MEETING. PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE AT (817) 514-5825, OR FAX (817) 514-3625.

I, Linda Proskey, City Secretary for the City of Watauga, hereby certify that this agenda was posted on the bulletin boards at City Hall, 7105 Whitley Road, Watauga, Texas, on August 30, 2024, before 6:00 p.m., in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

/s/ Linda Proskey
City Secretary



1. Need a definition of an “animal services officer:” *means the supervisor of the Animal Services Division of the city and any person designated by the City Manager or Chief of Police to administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter and all regulations relating to animals as authorized by state or federal law. The animal control officer is the designated caretaker of every impounded animal on the date of impoundment. Immediately upon intake, the designated caretaker is authorized to provide each appropriate aged, impounded animal with core immunizations as defined by the Associations of Shelter Veterinarian guidelines.* This means that some ordinances that refer to “animal control officer” will need to be changed to “animal services officer.” The reasoning is that we cannot control populations, but we provide services related to animal issues. The term animal control is outdated. Including the terminology of being a “caretaker” will cover staff being able to vaccinate upon intake according to the Texas Occupational Code.
2. “Traceable identification” definition to be added: means any acceptable method, such as microchipping, registration tag, personal information tag, or tattoo, which can be used to readily trace the current ownership of an animal.
3. Change the redemption section to include after 5 days of impoundment and after attempting to notify a possible owner through traceable identification by oral notification, or in person, or a written door notice left at the last known address of the owner, that the animal becomes the property of the City of Watauga. After the expiration of any required impoundment period or immediately after being voluntarily released by its owner, the animal shall become the property of the City of Watauga, all ownership rights for the animal shall transfer to the City of Watauga, and the department may dispose of the animal by adopting it out, transferring to rescue, transferring to another animal shelter, or euthanized. If an owner is notified orally, or in person, or a written door notice is left at the last known address of the owner, and the owner fails to redeem the animal from the Watauga Animal Shelter, it shall be deemed abandoned by the owner.
4. Under the humane treatment required section; abandonment needs to be included: Abandons any animal that he or she has possession or ownership of at the Watauga Animal Shelter, at any other place of business, on public property, or with any person that has not consented or has revoked consent to be responsible for the care of the animal. Any abandoned animal, after the expiration of any required impoundment period or immediately after being considered abandoned by its owner, the animal shall become the property of the City of Watauga, all ownership rights for the animal shall transfer to the City of Watauga, and the department may dispose of the animal by adopting it out, transferring to rescue, transferring to another animal shelter, or euthanized.
5. The redemption section shall also include that the owner redeeming their dog or cat must have the animal microchipped, if not already, before the release of the animal. The fee for the microchip is \$20 as stated in the fee schedule. Unless the cat is part of a TNVR program. If the animal is not able to be microchipped by the animal services staff, a written warning shall be given to have one implanted within 10 days of redemption. Failure to do so will be an offense.
6. The females in estrus section should be edited to state that dogs and cats in Watauga must be sterilized. Dallas code example:

An owner of a dog or cat commits an offense if the animal is not spayed or neutered.

It is a defense to prosecution under Subsection (a) that: the animal is under six months of age; a licensed veterinarian annually certifies that the dog or cat should not be spayed or neutered for health reasons or is permanently non-fertile; the animal is being held for adoption by animal services or an animal welfare organization; the animal is certified annually as a competition cat or competition dog; has a license as required by Texas Occupation Code, §802.101 for each facility owned or operated in the state; and can include a license permit through City of Watauga including application and licensing fees.



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 26, 2024
TO: Animal Services Advisory Committee Member
FROM:
SUBJECT: Supervisor report of shelter activities.

BACKGROUND/INFORMATION:

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

RECOMMENDATION/ACTION DESIRED:

ATTACHMENTS/ SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:

1. 9.4.24 Meeting

REVIEWED BY:

Robert Parker, Police Chief

Sandra Gibson, Interim City Manager and Director of Finance

Linda Proskey, City Secretary

Approved as to form for inclusion on Agenda

Approved - 8/28/2024

Approved - 8/29/2024

Final Approval - 8/30/2024

Supervisor report of activities:

1. Clear the Shelter is currently ongoing until September 10th
2. Two ACO's have passed their probationary period and one of those has passed their first anniversary
3. Currently Hiring for ACO and part-time kennel technician
4. The live release rate is staying at about 82% for this fiscal year
5. The volunteer program has been in effect



**MINUTES
ANIMAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2024
7105 WHITLEY ROAD, WATAUGA, TEXAS 76148
10:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Stacey McCool	Chairperson
Sergeant James Varelans	Vice Chairperson
Tonya DeGrand	Secretary

And

Linda Proskey	City Secretary
Lisa Benavidez	Assistant to the City Secretary
Malissa Minucci	Council Liaison
Jan Hill	Alternate Council Liaison

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements

PRESENTATIONS

There were no announcements

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests to speak

PUBLIC TESTIMONY FOR ACTION

There were no requests or public testimony

REPORT

Tonya DeGrand, Animal Services Supervisor updated the board on the staff openings for an Animal Control officer and a Kennel Technician.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. **Consider approval of the February 21, 2024, meeting minutes.**

Tonya DeGrand motioned to approve the minutes for the February 21, 2024, Animal Services Advisory Meeting. James Varelans seconded the motion to approve.

Vote passed 3-0-0-0

Ayes: DeGrand, Varelans, McCool
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. **Discuss and consider action on a recommendation to Watauga City Council on the adoption of a TNVR program.**

Chief Parker of the Watauga Police Department mentioned that this item was on the last agenda; however, due to the way it was worded, it could not be voted on at that time. The item is being brought back so that the board can vote on whether or not to recommend the TNVR program to the City Council.

DeGrand made a motion that recommended against the support of a TNVR program but supported a policy change regarding citizens participating in a TNVR program. Varelans seconded the motion.

Vote passed 3.0.0.0

Ayes: McCool, DeGrand, Varelans
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Non

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There were no items for future agendas

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson McCool adjourned the meeting at 10:37 PM

Approved: this _____ day of _____, 2024

Signed: this _____ day of _____, 2024

APPROVED:

Stacey McCool, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Tonya DeGrand Secretary

Recommended ordinance change:

Sections 6-194 and 6-195 regarding Dangerous Dogs of the City of Watauga ordinances need to state that the owner has 15 days to appeal and 30 days to get in compliance with the requirements of owning a dangerous dog. The ordinance currently is in contradiction to these time frames that were set by the Attorney General Opinion KP-0274.

Sec. 6-194. - Determination that dog is dangerous.

(a) Not later than the thirtieth day after a person learns that he is the owner of a dangerous dog, the person shall register the dangerous dog with the city police department. The city police department shall annually register a dangerous dog if the owner:

(1) Presents proof of:

- a. Liability insurance or financial responsibility, as required by section 6-199;
- b. Current rabies vaccination of the dangerous dog; and
- c. The availability of the secure enclosure in which the dangerous dog will be kept;

(e) An owner, not later than the fifteenth day after the date the owner is notified that the dog is a dangerous dog, may appeal the determination of the animal control authority to the municipal court for the city. An owner may appeal the decision of the municipal court in the same manner as appeals for other civil cases.

Sec. 6-195. - Leash, muzzle, microchip, and spay or neutering requirements.

(c) The owner of a dangerous dog shall cause the dangerous dog to be spayed or neutered not later than 30 days after the person learns that he is the owner of a dangerous dog. The owner of the dangerous dog shall certify in writing to the city animal control officer that such spaying or neutering has been accomplished not later than ten days after the spaying or neutering procedure.

Prospective Animal Services Advisory Meeting dates for the year 2025:

January 22 and 29

June 4, 18 and 25

October 1, 15, and 22