



Staff Report

Report To: Council Meeting
From: Terri Towstiuc, Clerk
Date: 2024-12-19
Subject: Poundkeeping Services

Recommendation:

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Terri Towstiuc, Clerk Re: Poundkeeping Services; And

OPTION 1: That Council hereby approve the eighteen (18) month term renewal with the Humane Society London Middlesex, for the period of December 31, 2024, ending June 30th, 2026; And

OPTION 2: That Council hereby approve the one-year term renewal with the Humane Society London Middlesex, for the period of December 31, 2024, ending December 31, 2025; And

That Council direct staff to prepare and Request for Tender (RFT), for renewal upon agreement expiry.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to obtain direction from West Elgin Council regarding the service required for canine pick-up and Poundkeeping.

Background:

In 2022, West Elgin switched to the Humane Society London Middlesex (HSLM), when the Glencoe Animal Shelter closed. The switch to HSLM was primarily due to limited resources available for canine pick-up and Pound keeping and a joint RFP along with Middlesex County was developed. The current agreement with HSLM authorizes pick-up and transportation of canines, when by-law is unavailable. Unfortunately, due to the limited number of hours received by by-law enforcement, most canine calls are outside of the by-law hours. The current agreement was dated June 26, 2024, with an expiry date of December 31, 2024. Total canine and Poundkeeping service with HSLM was \$10,689.76 in 2023 and \$10,899.90 YTD 2024. HSLM is located at 624 Clarke Rd, London, which is approximately 65kms (using 160 Main Street, West Lorne as a middle address, however this number would vary depending on pick-up location). HSLM has a total of 11 canine intakes in 2023 and 15 (full year) canine intakes in 2024, plus 14 Golden Retriever puppies, brought in by By-law Enforcement. Renewal options include an 18-month term, or confirmed by email (December 18), a 12-month term.

Recently, staff was contacted by Jodi Bedore, who purchased the Southwest Middlesex Animal Shelter (previously Glencoe Animal Shelter), and will be offering services to local municipalities, like

those previously offered by Glencoe Animal Shelter. The shelter is located at 3427 Concession Drive, Glencoe, which is approximately 25kms (again, using 160 Main Street West Lorne as a center point). Mr. & Mrs. Bedore are requesting a five-year term contract and have provided a list of their objectives for the facility. While this proposal includes cats, West Elgin does not currently have a program or agreement in place for rehoming stray cats. If Council chooses to proceed with the provision of including stray cats, this will likely increase the cost of service significantly.

To provide fair proposals from both parties, staff are recommending that a formal Request for Tender (RFT) be submitted, which will be done in 2025 to allow staff adequate time to review.

Financial Implications:

As per attached HSLM Agreement.

Policies/Legislation:

2025 By-law to enter into an agreement HSLM.

Alignment with Strategic Priorities:

Infrastructure Improvement	Recreation	Economic Development	Community Engagement
<input type="checkbox"/> To improve West Elgin’s infrastructure to support long-term growth.	<input type="checkbox"/> To provide recreation and leisure activities to attract and retain residents.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To ensure a strong economy that supports growth and maintains a lower cost of living.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To enhance communication with residents.

Respectfully submitted by,

Terri Towstiuc
Clerk