

REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Jason Simpson, City Manager

Prepared by: Brendan Rafferty, Fiscal Officer

Date: June 28, 2022

Subject: Agreement for Animal Control Services with Animal Friends of the Valleys

Recommendation

 Authorize the City Manager to execute an Animal Control Services Agreement with Animal Friends of the Valleys, Inc. (AFV) to provide animal control services, in such final form as approved by the City Attorney; and

2. Authorize the City Manager to approve reimbursements for additional services as needed (contingencies) in an amount not to exceed \$25,200 (10%) annually.

Background

The City of Lake Elsinore has contracted with AFV to provide a full range of animal control services to safeguard the health and safety of its citizens and domestic animals for nearly 30 years. These services include field services, after-hours emergency response, humane treatment of animals, public education, and enforcement of animal control municipal codes.

AFV also provides animal sheltering which is governed by a separate agreement. The City's animal sheltering services are covered by an agreement with the Southwest Communities Financing Authority (SCFA) administered by Riverside County on behalf of the City and our neighboring cities.

Cost for animal control field services are based on the number of animal control officers committed to the City plus back-up when necessary, cost for vehicle mileage, other infrastructure costs, after hour calls and vet expenses.

In 2018, the City Council approved the amendments of Chapter 6.04 and Chapter 6.06 of the existing municipal code regarding Animal Control Officers and Mandatory Spaying, Neutering and Microchipping, respectively.

In 2020, the City of Lake Elsinore increased the City's service level to one and a one-half officers through a proposed cost sharing method with AFV that reduced the overall cost for the City. This

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included working with AFV to implement some cost recovery strategies including an improved citation collection program, 90-day amnesty program, first offense warning citation for animal barking, veterinarian outreach, canvassing, and utilizing distinct outreach strategies.

Discussion

Due to the City's current and projected future growth, the City seeks to contract for additional services with AFV to provide animal control field services through June 30, 2025. The new agreement will increase the current level of service from one and one-half Animal Control Officers to two (2) Animal Control Officers at a cost of \$21,000.00 per month or \$252,000.00 for the first fiscal year and subject to increases for inflation up to 2.5% annually in later years. In addition, AFV shall receive and retain all revenues collected for licensing and citation fees collected on behalf of the City in the performance of the animal control services and shall submit a full organizational wide reconciliation of all services provided and all revenues collected, including licensing and citation fees and payment for services remitted by the City at the end of each Fiscal Year during the Term. Any costs for service that are not covered by such revenues will be paid as a one-time payment by the City. Any revenues collected by AFV that exceed the total cost for service shall be returned to the City as credit toward future services or programs

Fiscal Impact

Approval of this agreement will cost the City \$21,000 per month (\$252,000 annually) and is included in the Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Operating Budget.

Exhibits

A – Agreement for Animal Control Services

B – Scope of Services