

**ANIMAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
City Hall, Community Room – 77 Fair Drive
APRIL 24, 2024 - 5:30 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Becca Walls, Vice Chair Angela Minjares, Committee Members Diana Gardiner, Christina Poulos, Lisa A. Harker (arrived at 5:45pm)

Absent: Committee member Calvin Alvarez

Staff Present: Jessica Torrejon, Animal Services Coordinator, Capt. B. Wadkins

Liaisons Present: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Walls opened public comments.

Lisa Price thanked the Committee for trusting Priceless Pet Rescue with the City's animals. Expressed to the committee their dedication to being a transparent non-profit and expressed her care for animals.

COMMITTEE MEMBER AND LIAISON COMMENTS

Chair Walls opened Committee member and Liaison Comments.

Chair Walls spoke about the Council meeting and a comment that was made during public comments about the selection of Priceless Pet Rescue as the City's shelter contractor. Ms. Walls also mentioned to the committee that Council member, Don Harper, who is also liaison to the Animal Services committee voted no to approve the contract with Priceless Pets.

Capt. Wadkins thanked Chair Walls for her comments at the Council meeting and brought up the Police Department has begun to post an Animal Control related post once a month.

1. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 27, 2024, MEETING MINUTES

Chair Walls commented on committees previously conducted TNR research and commented there is no need to form an ad hoc committee.

MOTION/SECOND: Committee Member Poulos motioned to approve the March 27, 2024, meeting minutes. / Second by Committee Member Gardiner. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Vice Chair Minjares, Committee Members Gardiner and Poulos.

Nays: None

Absent: Committee member Alvarez, Harker

Recuse: Chair Walls

Motion Carries: 3-0

2. OLD BUSINESS

- a. None

3. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion of Animal Services Committee Goals

Chair Walls made a motion to review current goals at the May meeting to include the newly appointed committee members. Committee member Poulos seconded Chair Walls Motion.

Committee members present voted unanimously “aye” to motion to review goals at the May meeting.

Chair Walls motioned to bring Animals at Large Ordinance to the May meeting. Motion was seconded by Committee member Poulos.

Committee members present voted unanimously “aye” to motion to review goals at the May meeting.

General discussion of committee goals ensued, discussion about pet licensing promos, TNR/animals at large ordinance, pet events and volunteerism.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Walls opened public comments.

Lisa Price spoke about microchipping and offering free microchips would be more successful if offered to the community.

4. STAFF REPORT

- a. Animal Services Report
 - i. March 2024

Ms. Torrejon provided an update to the committee about the Spring Bark Bash and its success despite the rain causing a few vendors to call out. The event had an overall good turnout.

Capt. Wadkins expressed how he would like to see more involvement from the committee in the Animal Services events.

Vice Chair Minjares offered advice to pass along a signup sheet during the committee meetings so that members can volunteer at the Animal Services Committee meetings it might encourage them to signup more than just asking.

Ms. Torrejon updated the committee on the shelter contract and that Priceless Pet Rescue will be the City’s full-service animal shelter and animal adoption provider. The new contract will take effect on July 1, 2024.

Ms. Torrejon updated the committee with the March 2024 stats.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Walls adjourned the meeting at 6:14pm.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Next Meeting is May 22, 2024, 5:30p.m. at City Hall – Community Room (77 Fair Dr.)

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the committee members regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection on the City's website at www.costamesaca.gov. In addition, such writings and documents may be posted, whenever possible, and as part of the agenda, on the City's website at www.costamesaca.gov. Please note that records submitted by the public will not be redacted in any way and will be posted online as submitted, including any personal contact information.