



Agenda Commentary

Item Title/ Subject: Agreement with Fetch, Inc

Staff Source: City Manager, Steve Hewitt

Date: Nov. 15, 2013

Background/Subject Information:

It has become well known our Animal Shelter/Pound is inadequate and has reached a limit. The facility severely needs to be replaced, however the priority and funding is always a challenge regarding projects. Staff has been researching Animal Shelters and costs. New facility in Weatherford costs were approximately around \$300,000 (hard & soft costs). Fetch, Inc. is an organization that is non-profit 501c3 status and helps adopt animals from our current facility.

See their proposal attached....

If we would move to more humane efforts, they are willing to help create/raise half the funding for a facility. Also, they want to help us develop a better adoption process that includes spay and neuter. (The facility would need to have a room dedicated for spay/neuter procedures)

Police Chief Crabtree is currently in the plan mood to change to a more humane euthanasia, process prior to this proposal.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the proposal. Realizing the dog & cat population is an issue and our facility is an issue, this is a great partnership. Another public-private project enables us to do more with our funds.

Our proposed facility is not a "sanctuary" as the Friends for Life project and group are looking to create. Friends for Life was consulted about this proposal with Fetch, Inc. All parties had a meeting and see the need for a new City Pound/Shelter and their need for a "sanctuary" for animals.

Price/Cost: Approximately \$150,000

PROPOSED PROJECT-CLINTON ANIMAL SHELTER

Fetch, Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit corporation dedicated to helping animal shelters more humanely care for the animals in their charge and increase the number of adoptions from their facilities. As such, Fetch, Inc. would like to make the following proposal for partnership with the City of Clinton to build a new animal shelter.

Fetch, Inc. will agree to raise building capital in the amount of \$150,000 using our 501c3 status to apply for appropriate grants and through tax deductible public donations.

In return, Fetch, Inc. would like the City of Clinton to agree to the following terms:

1. The City of Clinton agrees to match or exceed the amount raised by Fetch, Inc. for purpose of building a new Animal Shelter in Clinton, Ok.
2. Construction should begin within a reasonable amount of time once the funds have been raised.
3. Approximately 1/3 of the total square footage would be dedicated to a 3 room low cost spay and neuter facility to be operated by Fetch, Inc. This facility would require a surgical room, recovery room and a small intake area to prevent breach of sterile environments. We would require a storage area that could be locked due to the nature of the medications used for anesthesia. Fetch, Inc. would be responsible for raising the funds to furnish the surgical tables, tools and medications needed. Also, the recruitment of a trained and licensed Veterinarian and Vet Tech. The daily operations would be the responsibility of Fetch, Inc.
4. Fetch, Inc. would provide spay/neuter and vaccinations to the City of Clinton Animals adopted through the Animal Shelter at our cost.
5. All euthanasia done by the City of Clinton will be the humane method of Euthanasia by Injection.
6. The City of Clinton will devise an adoption plan with help from Fetch, Inc. that includes mandatory spay/neuter and rabies vaccinations on all adopted dogs and Petpoint software provided free to the City of Clinton. Petpoint tracks all animals that enter the shelter, provides low cost microchips (current cost \$6.35 each) and provides free health insurance to the adopter for a period of 30 days. The only cost to the City would be microchips, this cost to be recovered from adoption fees.

We believe this partnership would be a great advantage to citizens of Clinton and a very progressive endeavor. Our current shelter is in very bad shape and beginning to cost the City money in necessary repairs. It is no longer large enough to serve the demands of Clinton. A low cost spay and neuter facility would help those that cannot afford to have their animals altered without financial aid. This would help decrease the large numbers coming into the shelter in the first place. An increase in adoptions would build revenue for the City as well.

Emily B.
Fetch Project Manager