

Minutes from Hurst Animal Services Advisory Committee Meeting  
August 23, 2017

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2017, at 12 p.m., the Animal Services Advisory Committee for the City of Hurst convened at the City Hall Council Chambers at 1505 Precinct Line Road in Hurst, Texas.

The following members were present:

Assistant Chief Steven Niekamp – City of Hurst  
Animal Services Supervisor Amanda Earl – City of Hurst  
Animal Service Officer Michelle Watson – City of Keller  
Veterinarian, Dr. Jason Risley

There were two members of the public present as well as two City of Hurst employees.

A quorum was present.

Assistant Chief Steven Niekamp called the meeting to order and conducted the following business:

Consent Agenda

1. Assistant Chief Steven Niekamp entertained a motion to approve minutes from the previous meeting held May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Animal Services Supervisor Amanda Earl moved to approve the minutes. Animal Service Officer Michelle Watson seconded. The motion prevailed.

Discussion Items

1. Animal Services Supervisor Amanda Earl shared some highlights regarding shelter statistics – intake numbers are down yet adoptions are up; there have been more than 300 adoptions since the beginning of the fiscal year (October 1, 2017); rescues are down due to higher adoption numbers; donations are up by 90%; the shelter received a legacy donation last week of \$3500; owner requested euthanasia numbers have increased; shelter euthanasia rates are down; feral cat intake has decreased significantly; requests for service have decreased; and deceased wildlife pickup has increased.
2. Clear the Shelters summary – Animal Services Supervisor Amanda Earl stated the adoption event on August 19, 2017 was a big success. All but one dog and one cat

were adopted from the shelter for a total of 35 adoptions. There were more than 20 staff and volunteers on hand, over 110 visitors, and vendors from four area businesses and organizations were on site. During the national three-week campaign, over 72,000 pets were adopted from 960 participating shelters. The winner of the raffle prize was Chris Bennett.

3. Assistant Chief Steven Niekamp addressed the proposed animal ordinance revisions. The Council is in favor of adding a fifth position to the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee to allow a citizen representative a place on the Committee. The addition is contingent on the passing of the ordinance revision. The proposed new member is Hurst resident, Kim Leach. The Council requested a review of neighboring cities' ordinances regarding housing chickens on private property before making a final decision about allowing chickens in Hurst. Other revisions such as pet limits, mandatory microchipping for impounded animals, and wildlife trapping, are on hold until the Council makes a decision on the proposed fowl ordinance.
4. Assistant Chief Steven Niekamp addressed the shelter project. Currently, City of Richland Hills, City of Haltom City, and the Humane Society of North Texas are interested in partnering with Hurst to develop a regional shelter. On Thursday, August 31, 2017, representatives from these cities will meet to discuss the shelter project, costs, locations, and more. It is unlikely that the shelter project will involve renovating or adding on to the existing Hurst shelter.
5. Assistant Chief Steven Niekamp opened the floor for public comments. Hurst resident Sandra Bitz asked if members of the public could attend the shelter project meeting on August 31. Steven Niekamp advised the meeting was not open to the public. Sandra Bitz thanked the Committee for adding a citizen position to the Animal Shelter Advisory Committee.
6. Assistant Chief Steven Niekamp set the date of the next meeting for Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 12 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located at 1505 Precinct Line Road in Hurst, Texas.

### Adjournment

Assistant Chief Steven Niekamp entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Animal Services Supervisor Amanda Earl moved. Dr. Jason Risley seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

Approved this 31 day of August, 2017.

Attest:



Supervisor Amanda Earl

Approved:



Assistant Chief Steven Niekamp