

ORDINANCE #1289 - ANIMAL CONTROL REVISIONS

Planning and Judicial Committee Action Item

Councilmember Cole, Chair of the Committee, reviewed that certain provisions of the recently passed Animal Control Ordinance lacked enforcement passages for potentially dangerous dogs. Also some additional references of incorporation were needed to address animal cruelty and mandatory rabies quarantines.

Councilmember Cole moved to approve Ordinance #1289, with Councilmember Reilly seconding.

Discussion

Councilmember Landcastle had questions regarding determinations of “ensuring quarantines” by owners, and who pays for publications regarding potentially dangerous dogs. Chief Baker explained that this had been the procedure with the previous ordinance, and that the police had not encountered any problems.

Motion passed five to one, with Councilmember Landcastle voting no.

ORDINANCE #1288 - SETTING ANIMAL CONTROL FEES

Planning and Judicial Committee Discussion Item

Councilmember Cole related that the Ordinance addressed fees associated with the Animal Control Ordinance and had been adjusted to match those of Whatcom County and Bellingham. Fees now include cat licenses at \$10 per year, or \$10 for the lifetime of the cat if it is altered.

Councilmember Elgart stated that she was very much opposed to the fees pertaining to the licensing of cats, and was not convinced that irresponsible pet owners would license their cats. She felt that responsible owners were subsidizing those who were not. She felt that the entire Animal Control ordinance should go back to the drawing board. Councilmember Reilly agreed.

Councilmember Landcastle felt that pet owners should license their animals.

Councilmember Cole pointed out that much thought and work had gone into the ordinance, which addressed more than just the feral cat population. She stated that it encourages responsible pet ownership, and the fact that animals are not disposable. She added that the ordinance was not perfect but a good first step in the right direction.

A motion to table failed.

Councilmember Cole moved to send Ordinance #1288 back to the Planning and Judicial Committee for further study, which was seconded by Councilmember Landcastle.

Motion passed with Councilmember Reilly voting no.

SET COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Streets & Utilities	Wednesday, November 6th at 10 a.m.
Planning & Judicial	Not needed until following week
Equipment & Facilities	Not needed
Recreation & Finance	Not needed

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Cole reported that the Lodging Tax Advisory Boars was looking into ways to possibly increase revenues for 2003. This will be discussed in full at the budget workshop.

Councilmember Landcastle reported that WTA has added two new bus routes to the east County. He added that the City’s project website will be ready for review this Friday. The address is

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Public Works

Director Sperry stated that there will be a public informational meeting on Wednesday, November 6, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. regarding the Malloy Road project. Residents have been notified and the general public is invited to attend. Also, he and Administrator Signett had met with BNSF officials earlier in the day with positive results regarding Thornton.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further scheduled city business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

Carolyn Jensen, Mayor

Linda Knutson, City Clerk

ATTACHMENT "A":

**MINUTES
Planning and Judicial Committee
Held Wednesday, October 30, 2002
City Hall Conference Room
1:00 p.m.**

COMMITTEE: Councilmembers Susan Cole (Chair), Marianne Elgart, Mike Reilly

STAFF: Roland Signett, Linda Knutson, Tom Black

REVIEW OF ORDINANCE #1289 - ANIMAL CONTROL REVISIONS

City Clerk Knutson presented the Committee with some revisions and additions to the recently passed Animal Control Ordinance. It had been pointed out that the new ordinance lacked provisions regarding potentially dangerous dogs, which was problematic for the police department, as they have a case pending. Language was added to cover this issue. Also added was a mandatory rabies quarantine period for suspect/at risk animals. Animal cruelty in the first and second degree was added to the RCW's incorporated by reference.

The Committee discussed the changes, and felt that language addressing biting cats should be dropped.

It was moved by Councilmember Reilly and seconded by Councilmember Elgart to recommend approval of Ordinance #1289 to the full Council with the discussed changes. Motion passed.

REVIEW OF ORDINANCE #1288 - ANIMAL CONTROL FEES

City Clerk Knutson reviewed the fees associated with the Animal Control Ordinance, which have been adjusted to fit fees instituted by Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham. Councilmember Reilly felt that added penalties should be assessed when an animal is picked up which has not been licensed. Also questioned was what kind of shots are administered to animals when they are picked up or dropped off at the Animal Shelter. The Committee wished to make certain that animals that are already fully inoculated are not in danger of being over-immunized. Staff will look into this.

Councilmember Reilly moved to send Ordinance #1288 to the full Council for discussion without a recommendation. This was seconded by Councilmember Elgart. Motion passed.

ATTACHMENT "B":

**STREETS AND UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
10/30/02**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**MIKE REILLY
JERRY LANDCASTLE**

STAFF

**ROLAND SIGNETT
LOREN SPERRY**

STORM UTILITY

The Committee was presented with a draft ordinance creating a storm water utility as well as an ordinance which would impose a storm water fee on new construction. While the ordinance presented fees which could, the actual fees were meant to be illustrative. A number of scenarios for imposing fees was discussed. It was agreed that consideration of a storm water utility should be discussed as part of the budget process.

GOLDEN EAGLE SEWER LINE-SEAMOUNT WATER MAIN

The Committee discussed the need for upgrading the sewer line on Golden Eagle. The Seamount water main was also identified as a project that needs to be completed. The Committee discussed having a number of projects identified which are necessary to maintaining the city's infrastructure and beginning the development of a plan for completing the improvements. Staff will begin to work on a list of projects and attempt to put a tentative cost to the improvements.

STREET SWEEPING AND SNOW REMOVAL POLICIES

The Committee requested that staff develop written policies for snow removal and street sweeping for review.