

Summary of Recommended Fee Changes – A. Animal Control

The below fees will come into effect for the 2024 Fees and Charges By-law:

Service or Activity	Existing Fee	Proposed Fee 2024	Proposed Fee 2025	Proposed Fee 2026	Rationale, Research and Additional Information
Dog Licence (spayed/neutered) – Annual Fee	\$20.00 (before March 31)/ \$30.00 (after March 31)	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	<p>The City will be transitioning to using DocuPet for animal licensing in Q3 2024. With this service provider, the renewal for dog licences will be a 365-day renewal as opposed to an annual renewal. A fee for a dog licence purchased before March 31 and after March 31 will no longer be required. With the removal of a before March 31 and after March 31 fee, the proposed fee of \$25.00 is halfway between the two existing fees.</p> <p>While the fee for dog licences has not increased in over a decade, it remains comparable with other municipal dog licensing fees.</p>
Dog Licence (not spayed/neutered) – Annual Fee	\$35.00 (before March 31)/ \$45.00 (after March 31)	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	See rationale above.
Dog Licence – Late Fee	-	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	With a 365-day licence renewal through DocuPet, a late fee will need to be added. This will be charged automatically to the owner’s account 30 days following the expiration of the licence. When a pet owner

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					<p>attempts to renew online, this fee will be added on top of the licensing fee. Several reminders are sent to the owner by DocuPet prior to the expiration of the licence as well as following expiration of the licence.</p> <p>A \$20.00 fee is being proposed to act as a deterrent to renewing the licence late since the new licence period begins the day the pet owner licences and is not retroactive to the last licence’s expiry date.</p>
Cat Licence (spayed/neutered) – Lifetime Fee	\$30.00	\$35.00	\$35.00	\$35.00	<p>Currently, the cost of a cat licence is \$10.00 more than a dog licence (if the dog licence is purchased before March 31). With the proposed fee for a dog licence increasing by \$5.00, then the cat licence will be increased by \$5.00 as well to maintain that cost difference.</p> <p>While the fee for cat licences has not increased in over a decade, it remains comparable with other municipal cat licensing fees.</p>
Cat Licence (not spayed/neutered) – Lifetime fee	\$45.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	See rationale above.
Failure to Licence Pet	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	The proposed fee is comparable with other municipalities and represents a higher fee than purchasing a dog and/or cat licence so that there is a deterrent to not purchasing a licence.

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Release of Ownership – One Cat or Dog	\$49.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	Increasing this fee by \$1.00 to make it a round number.
Release of Ownership to Shelter – Litter of Puppies or Kittens	\$59.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	Currently, there is only a \$10.00 difference between the fee for a release of ownership of one cat or dog versus the release of ownership of a litter of puppies or kittens. More costs are involved to care for a litter of animals as opposed to one animal, and thus, this fee is being increased to reflect that increased cost.
Appeal Fee – Muzzle/Leash and Dangerous Dog Order	-	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	Currently, there is no fee for an appeal to the Committee of Adjustment (CofA) for a muzzle/leash and dangerous dog order issued by an Animal Control Officer. A \$200.00 appeal fee is being recommended to help recover the costs for staff time in preparing the information required (agendas, minutes, disclosure package, etc.) for an appeal to the CofA as well as the per diems issued to CofA members for attending an appeal hearing. This fee is comparable to the \$200.00 appeal to the CofA for a Property Standards Order.

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The below fees will come into effect on January 1, 2025. These fees are currently listed in the Animal Control contract, and thus, cannot come into effect until after the expiration of the current contract on December 31, 2024.

Service or Activity	Existing Fee	Proposed Fee 2024	Proposed Fee 2025	Proposed Fee 2026	Rationale, Research and Additional Information
Reclamation	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	<p>Currently, owners must pay a reclamation fee and shelter fee to reclaim their pet. To simplify the reclamation process for the customer, it is being proposed that the shelter fees be removed from the by-law in place of an increased reclamation fee. This way, the customer will have one fee to pay, as well as the per day maintenance fee listed further below. Having a reclamation fee, three different types of shelter fees, and a maintenance fee can be confusing for an owner who is trying to reclaim their pet.</p> <p>While the fee for reclamation has not increased in over a decade, it remains comparable with other municipal reclamation fees.</p>
Shelter fee – first time	\$25.00	\$25.00	-	-	Remove fee as per rationale above.
Shelter fee – second time	\$35.00	\$35.00	-	-	Remove fee as per rationale above.

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Shelter fee – third time	\$45.00	\$45.00	-	-	Remove fee as per rationale above.
Emergency Services (after hours pick-up)	\$45.00	\$45.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	The current animal control contractor has advised that the proposed fee more accurately reflects the true costs involved in responding to an Emergency Services call.
Maintenance fee (impound)	\$8.00/day	\$8.00/day	\$10.00/day	\$12.00/day	This fee has not been increased in over a decade and does not reflect the costs associated with the service. We are proposing a 20% increase to a base rate of \$10.00 and from there, will do an annual increase to remain current.