

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES**

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held on Wednesday, October 3, 2018 in Council Chambers, starting at 6:00 P.M. Those in attendance were as follows:

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Rocky Case, Acting Chairman; Jeff White, Bryan Cook, Scott Roybal, Dicky Shanor, Richard Johnson, Pete Laybourn, and Mike Luna. Absent: President Dr. Mark Rinne, Chairman.

**CITY STAFF:** Chief Brian Kozak, Police Department; Michael Skinner, Project Information Officer; Eric Fountain, Mayor's Chief of Staff; Kylie Soden, Deputy City Clerk; Mary Salas, Administrative Assistant to the City Council; Alessandra McCoy Fakelman, Assistant City Attorney; Logan Sharpe, Staff Attorney; and Judge Ronn Jeffery, Municipal Court.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Austin Huguelet, WTE; David Pope and Phil Kiner, Cheyenne Animal Shelter (CAS); Susan Kurr; Larry Pixley; Susan Pixley; Enid White; Crystal Bennett; Robyn Yetka; Eshel Geha; Ronnie Krahl; Steve Adams; Paula Cook; Jean Rauls; Lisa Smith; Tamara Whatts; Bob Brinkman; Will Harpe; Amanda Ellis; Michelle Hodges; Dr. Daniel Jensen-Ryan; Lauri Julian; Chloe LaKowski; Collette Thomas; and Reese Lewiz.

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### **AGENDA ITEMS**

18. RESOLUTION – Terminating the agreement between the City of Cheyenne, Wyoming, and the Cheyenne Animal Shelter/Services for Animal Control and Animal Shelter Services. (SPONSOR – MR. CASE)

Mr. Case moved to adopt, seconded by Mr. Roybal. Mr. Case moved to amend by substitute submitted on 10-3-18, seconded by Mr. Roybal. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Main motion, as amended, carried by unanimous voice vote.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Case, Acting Chairman, provided guidelines for public participation, called for a roll-call of committee members present and recitation of the pledge of allegiance. David Pope, Cheyenne Animal Shelter (CAS), requested committee members reconsider termination of the current agreement between the City of Cheyenne and the CAS, noting loss of funding would be devastating to the community relating to the multiple services provided by CAS. Mr. Pope reported the CAS Board is currently reviewing its policies and procedures and will be updating them as appropriate to ensure the safety of staff, volunteers and the animals. Upon inquiry, Mr. Pope provided information relating to funding allocations, audit procedures, creating a crisis management policy, current staffing, volunteer, and board membership levels, noting there has been some resignations following the recent incident, and confirmed a commitment of the CAS Board to continue to work with the City regarding updating and monitoring policies and procedures. Upon further inquiry, Mr. Pope provided details relating to

the suspension of Bob Fecht, current CEO of the CAS, and advised the CAS Board will consider the requirements of the proposed substitute which provides for increased accountability involving board governance training, staff training, and funding allocations. Upon inquiry, Phil Kiner, Acting CAS CEO, provided information involving current training procedures, staff and volunteer levels, and advised the CAS has ceased the use of pepper spray at the facility. Community members present requested action be taken to terminate Bob Fecht as CAS CEO. The following individuals: Larry Pixley; Susan Pixley; Enid White; Crystal Bennett; Robyn Yetka; Eshel Geha; Ronnie Krahl; Steve Adams; Paula Cook; Jean Rauls; Lisa Smith; Tamara Whatts; Bob Brinkman; Will Harpe; Amanda Ellis; Michelle Hodges; Dr. Daniel Jensen-Ryan; Lauri Julian; Chloe LaKowski; Susan Kurr; Collette Thomas; and Reese Lewiz, raised concerns relating to the operations of the CAS which included the following topics: Funding accountability, improving staff training and safety procedures, volunteer recruitment and retainment, current and future donation implications, multiple services provided to the community by CAS, opportunity to improve and revise policies and procedures, CAS Board response to recent animal abuse allegations involving delayed disciplinary action and use of pepper spray, and non-profit status. Following conclusion of public comments, Mr. Case, relinquished duties of the Chair to Mr. White, Finance Chairman, for the remainder of the meeting. Committee members raised concerns relating to various operations of the CAS and voiced support of the proposed amendment which includes: Annual training for Board members and staff, initial annual audits of policies and procedures, and development of a crisis management plan.

There being no further items for the agenda to come before the Committee of the Whole, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Submitted by,



Kris Jones  
Executive Assistant  
to the City Council