

TOMPKINS COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
SPCA SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 19, 2007, ITHACA TOWN HALL
MINUTES

Present: Don Barber, Doug Austic, Cathy Valentino, Ric Dietrich, Steve Thayer

Guest: Kathleen Wright, Animal Health Inspector with New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets

Meeting began at 9:00 a.m.

Ms Wright disseminated information on Article 7 of the Agriculture and Markets Law regarding licensing, identification and control of dogs, animal population control program and a packet on dog control and shelters.

The legal minimum requirement:

- Dog Control Officer with Ag & Markets training.
 - The DCO is an appointed position
 - Can be appointed by individual municipalities or shared jointly
 - Duties:
 - Licensing Enforcement (issue tickets)
 - Monthly Renewal List
 - Yearly nonrenewal
 - Seize and Impound Dogs
 - Records of Seizure/Disposition
 - Action for Article 7 Violations
 - Dangerous Dog Proceedings
 - Deer Depredation/Night Quarantine

Municipalities, individually or jointly, can contract out for other services:

- Veterinary Services
- Vehicle
- Equipment
- Shelter (all shelters must be approved by Ag & Markets)
 - Own and Maintain Your Own
 - Contract with Other Municipalities
 - Contract with Incorporated SPCA/Humane Society
 - Establish/Maintain Jointly with Municipals
 - Lease Property from Person/Business

Feline care is not covered under Article 7, Animal Control, of the Ag & Market Laws. However, cats are a large part of any animal control, humane society or shelter budget.

Ms. Wright is available for questions, or further information, by telephone at 1-800-554-4501 or e-mail at kathleenwright@agmkt.state.ny.us.

Information needed:

Get copies of each municipality SPCA contracts for 2006-2007

Get copies of the year-to-date reports for each municipality from the SPCA.

Gather information for an RFP:

- Contact other Counties

- Ask Ms. Wright for information

- What level of services is being expected from the SPCA or any other animal control program?

Next Steps:

Meet with SPCA Board members on 10/23/07, at 9 a.m. in the Aurora Room at Ithaca Town Hall-215 N. Tioga St.

Mr. Barber will draft a couple of press releases.

This sub-committee will report out to the full membership on 10/25/07.