

ADDITIONAL AGENDA



GENERAL COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2014 – 9:00 AM

COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE
300 CITY CENTRE DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO L5B 3C1

ADDITIONAL DEPUTATION

- C. Item 2 Lily Chan, President, Mississauga Humane Society
- D. Item 2 Patricia Frazier, Resident
- E. Item 2 Shane McNeil, Resident

INFORMATION ITEM

- A. Item 2 Email dated June 16, 2014 from Shane McNeil, resident

CLOSED SESSION

(Pursuant to Subsection 239 (3.1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*)

- B. Education Session – Widened Driveways

Contact: Sacha Smith, Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk 905-615-3200 ext. 4516 Fax: 905-615-4181
sacha.smith@mississauga.ca

Re: Item 2

From: Hazel McCallion
Sent: 2014/06/16 9:28 AM
To: Crystal Greer; Mickey Frost
Subject: FW: Agenda Item for June 18 2014



FYI,

Carol

From: shanemcneil [mailto:
Sent: 2014/06/15 11:37 PM
To: Ron Starr; Nando.Iannica@mississauga.ca; Pat Mullin; Hazel McCallion; Chris Fonseca; George Carlson; Sue McFadden; Pat Saito; Katie Mahoney; Jim Tovey; Bonnie Crombie; Frank Dale; Mary Maiorano
Subject: Agenda Item for June 18 2014

RE: Agenda Council Item, for June 18, 2014; Regarding the welfare of outdoor dogs, being kept in locked cages; By-law 0098-004

Dear Madame Mayor and Councillors:

As I have reviewed the City report for June 18, 2014, I am very disappointed to see no recommendation for bringing indoors dogs, when faced with extreme weather conditions.

The report seems to imply that I was asking that dogs be brought indoors during any type of weather. As you know from my past presentation in January, this is not the case. As a dog owner myself, I know that dogs love to be outside for long periods of time. However, as we just experienced weather as cold as -41 celsius, it is important to realize that leaving a dog out in that type of extreme weather, is more than just inhumane, it is outright irresponsible.

I understand that a vet from one local animal clinic is to appear this Wednesday to support the City's opinion. I would challenge this with an equally-qualified vet to speak on the matter, but I have received very short notice of this June 18 agenda. I would therefore ask of any councillor to motion to defer this matter, so to provide a fair amount of time to have other experts with opposing opinions offer a deputation. Most vets are very busy and can not appear during their business hours at the mere drop of a dime.

The city report also states that there are currently no jurisdictions with a cold-weather restriction, in Canada or the U.S.A. This is just not correct, and is very misleading to you as councillors. I can provide many examples where there are in fact restrictions in leaving outdoors a dog, when the temperature is a grave concern. For example, in Chagrin Falls, Ohio, please see point #4:

You may also want to research this site:
<http://www.unchainyourdog.org/Laws.htm>

Here's some of my research (Relevant Sections Underlined):

Chagrin Falls, Ohio

June 25, 2007

505.071 CRUELTY TO COMPANION ANIMALS

c) No person who confines or who is the custodian or caretaker of a companion animal shall negligently do any of the following:

3) Dogs tethered outside shall be limited to a total of nine hours in any twenty four hour period. Tethers cannot inhibit a dog's movement in any way that causes injury, entanglement, or strangulation. All tethers will be no less than twenty feet in length. Choke collars and pinch collars are prohibited for the purpose of tethering.

4) When ambient temperatures fall below thirty degrees Fahrenheit, dogs shall be limited to a total of four hours outside, whether in a pen or on a tether. When summer temperatures exceed eighty five degrees Fahrenheit, animals have to be provided with adequate shade. Adequate shade will be shade which affords the animal the ability to be protected form direct exposure to the sun.

6) Dogs confined to pens must have not less than 150 square feet of pen space for each dog housed.

Grand Prairie, Texas (See points, 3, 4, and 5)

Sec. 521.

Unlawful restraint of animals.

(a) The owner of an animal may restrain an animal on a tether for a reasonable period, not to exceed three hours in a 24 hour period, and no longer than is necessary for the owner to complete a temporary task that requires the animal to be restrained.

Tethering is prohibited:

(1) Between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.;

(2) Within 500 feet of the premises of a school or school bus stop;

(3) If the actual or effective outdoor temperature is below 32 degrees Fahrenheit;

(4) If a heat advisory has been issued by a local or state authority or jurisdiction;

(5) If a hurricane, tropical storm, or tornado warning has been issued for the jurisdiction by the National Weather Service.

Moundsville, West Virginia

November 2009

<http://fohowv.org/images/pdflaw/moundsvilletetheringord.pdf>

No person shall tether an animal:

a. When the outside temperature is equal to or greater than 85 degrees Fahrenheit or equal to or less than 32 degrees Fahrenheit.

Creve Coeur, Missouri

April, 2005 - *Dogs may not be chained for more than eight continuous hours or more than 12 hours in a 24 hour period.*

- Leaving a dog or cat tethered outdoors for more than eight continuous hours or more than 12 hours in a 24-hour period is prohibited

- Tethering a dog or cat under conditions where the animal or tether can become entangled or where the tether restricts access to "suitable, edible, and sufficient food, clean **water (cool in summer and unfrozen in winter)** and appropriate shelter" is prohibited.

- Exposing a dog or cat to "any weather conditions that cause immediate imminent threat to the animal's physical well-being" is prohibited.

As you can see, there are indeed other places in this world with regard to a dog's well-being. Also please remember: Just because a vet states that a dog can stand it outside if they are healthy and of a certain breed of a dog, it does not mean that a dog surviving such extreme weather has done so with little or no stress. It is very stressful to the dog to leave any breed exposed to such temperatures as -41 celsius. Yes, a young healthy dog may survive, but I doubt it was easy for the dog. A dog being exposed to such weather, as they age, is much more likely to become sick, stressed, and then succumb to the extreme cold. Fluid builds-up in their lungs more with age, just as with people.

Coincidentally, as council here was to consider such protective and humane measures, the city of Philadelphia, also experiencing our unusual and extreme cold, was also considering such protective measures. Here is a recent story from February 9, 2014:

By Mike Dunn

PHILADELPHIA (CBS) – It's common sense to take your dog inside when its freezing outside, but in Philadelphia, leaving Fido out in the cold is not illegal. However, that could soon change.

City Councilman Kenyatta Johnson says in the wake of this difficult and bitterly cold winter, he's hearing from residents about neighbor's dogs being left outside:

"I've been receiving several calls from my constituents regarding dogs out in the backyard in severe cold weather. Community residents were asking what is the city doing about it? What type of law is on the books?"

But when his staff looked into it, they found there currently is no law in the city code prohibiting pet exposure to freezing temperatures. Now Johnson has introduced a bill to do exactly that:

“There’s a penalty if you leave your dog outside under 32 degrees of cold weather, or anytime above 85 degrees.”

The penalty would range from \$150 to \$300. Johnson says it’s a shame that such a law is even needed:

“At the end of the day, if you can’t take of your dog, you shouldn’t own it.”

And Johnson says he’s got at least one vote for the bill — from his own dog, a Blue Cane Corso named Sacha:

“Sacha makes sure that I’m doing my job to take care of my pet animals.”

<http://philadelphia.cbslocal.com/2014/02/09/leaving-dogs-outside-in-freezing-cold-could-become-illegal-in-philadelphia/>

Thank-you all for taking the time to read through this somewhat lengthy information. The examples I have provided are only a few among a long list of many. I will again appear before you, this June 18; however, given such short notice as only a few days ago, I would prefer if this matter can be deferred to a later date.

Regards,

-Shane McNeil