

TOMPKINS COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
SPECIAL MEETING WITH SPCA
OCTOBER 23, 2007
MINUTES

Present: Don Barber-TCCOG, Doug Austic-TCCOG, Cathy Valentino-TCCOG, Ric Dietrich-TCCOG, Steve Thayer-City of Ithaca, Steve Whicher-Tompkins County, Marcia Lynch-Tompkins County, Bob O'Brien-SPCA, Abigail Smith-SPCA, Joe McAffe-SPCA, Kathleen Wright-Ag & Markets

Meeting began at 9:05 a.m.

Mr. Barber opened the meeting by informing the SPCA that this sub-committee was appointed by TCCOG to negotiate an appropriate contract that includes feasible costs and quality service, however, there is no binding status on municipalities to sign contracts. Groton has already contracted out with a different organization and Dryden is contemplating other offers. It is felt that municipality needs would be best served by contracting with one organization. Budget season is upon us and we need to have some resolution to this problem by November 1, 2007. Taking all this information into consideration, TCCOG would like to propose a month-to-month contract, or a contract for up to six months, with a 50 percent increase in fees. By January 1, 2008, TCCOG will have compiled information for, and sent out, an RFP regarding animal control services.

Mr. O'Brien informed the group that there were several items that they had discussed:

- 1) SPCA proposed a three month contract at the 150 percent rate; then, if we continue to contract with the SPCA after March 31, 2008, the contract will cover months four through twelve and will be at the 200 percent rate.
- 2) SPCA will have to reconsider its stand if Dryden decides to contract with another agency. Dryden carries 25 percent of the costs.
- 3) SPCA will need a 60-day lead-time to shutdown the animal control aspect of its organization.
- 4) SPCA would like to assist in producing the RFP.

Caucus was called at 9:15 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 9:25 a.m.

TCCOG discussed what was put on the table and agreed upon the following, which shall be put in a Memorandum of Understanding:

- The first three months of 2008 will be contracted through the SPCA at an of 50 percent pro rata increase.

- There will be a service agreement.
- If the contract with the SPCA continues past March 31, 2008, April through December 2008 will be contracted at the 100 percent increase with a 60-day escape clause.
- The SPCA will produce the contracts with all the stipulations

Mr. Whicher will discuss this with the County Legislators at this Wednesday's Expanded Budget Committee meeting.

Mr. Barber will discuss this with the full TCCOG membership on Thursday.

Meeting ended at 9:40 a.m.