



REQUEST FOR ACTION CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Date: 7/15/2025
Agenda Section: Consent Agenda

Department Origination: Police

Agenda Item: Approve City Administrator to Renew Heartland Animal Rescue Team (HART) Contract

Approval Required: Simple Majority Vote

BACKGROUND

The City of Baxter first entered a contract with Heartland Animal Rescue Team (HART) in 2002. The facility has served as a boarding resource for the city ever since.

Fees are paid to HART on a per capita basis. Fee adjustments were recommended by HART and accepted by the City in 2010 and 2016.

HART has provided the city with an updated contract with an increase in fees. Boarding fees are currently set at \$16 per day. The new contract rate for daily boarding fees is \$18 per day. Per capita rate is currently at \$1.50 which is based off the 2020 census. The new contract per capita rate is \$1.80 which is based off the 2023 projected census report. Current contract rates for quarantined animals are set at \$50/day. New contract rates for quarantined animals are \$75/day.

Currently, the animal pickup fee is \$40. Staff has asked HART to increase this fee to \$45 to help offset some of the increased costs to the City.

The contract extension presented this year is for a three-year period. HART is requesting an updated signature page with no other language changes being proposed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

With the per capita rate change in the new contract, there will be an approximate \$3450 increase to the 2026 animal control budget. Staff is also projecting an additional \$1500 increase to the 2026 animal control budget to cover the increase in the daily boarding and quarantined animal rates.

HART fees are anticipated and reflected in the yearly police department budget. All fees and charges in this contract will be included in future years police budget proposals.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends approval of the contract renewal with HART.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED

Approve the City Administrator to Renew Contract with Heartland Animal Rescue Team.

