

Animal Control Monthly Report

for May 2019

Summary

3 calls (1- crows- 2 dog complaints)

Crows- A total of six complaints about crows have been logged since the beginning of April. No action taken as yet, waiting for change in By-law.

Dogs- One attack complaint and one dog at large complaint.

Details

May 13- Attended Animal Control course in Red Deer AB.

May 15

Received a call from [REDACTED] complaining about [REDACTED] and her dog being off leash and urinating in her front yard again! I thought his issue was resolved back in March, so I patrolled the area over a three-day period. On May 28, 2019 between 09:30 and 09:45, I observed [REDACTED] dog wander into adjoining properties and urinate on a child's outdoor play centre. The dog then wandered through other properties and onto 2nd St SW. I identified the dog belonged to [REDACTED] by the Wadena Town Licence Tag No. 068. on the collar. **Action taken-** Letter written and delivered with a \$100 fine. (copies of letter attached)

May 22

[REDACTED] complained of crow's nests in the tree in her back yard. The nest was too high to reach. Explained there was nothing I could do till the Bylaw had been passed by council enabling me to shoot them.

May 23

Received a call from [REDACTED] in relation to a dog attacking [REDACTED] dog while out walking on [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] tried to help and intervene and reported that the dog acted aggressively toward her. Both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] said the dog came from the residence of [REDACTED]. After investigating the incident, I realised the dog is the same dog [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] received a fine for after a complaint from [REDACTED] for aggressive behaviour. It's the same dog that also bit someone last year. The dog now belongs to [REDACTED] living at [REDACTED] and is licenced under [REDACTED]. Town admin have now changed the Licencing Register to reflect the change of ownership and new address. This is the third complaint of aggressive behaviour.

Action taken- Hand delivered a letter explaining By-laws and what the Town expects of pet owners. (copy of letter attached)

NOTE: Council may want to revisit dangerous dogs By-law.

Cats- No cats have been spayed or neutered this month due to staffing shortages at Waggin Wheelz because of maternity leave. Should be back up and running in June.

Animal Control Course

This was an excellent course attended by By-law officers and Peace officers from all over Alberta. I picked up some useful information that confirmed some thoughts I had about Wadena's Feral cats.

The course was held on the property of Jim DeBoon a well-known animal control officer of 30 plus years' experience. His business is kennelling, animal control, rehabilitation of dogs, homing strays, both dog and cat, and training By-law and Peace officers.

When it comes to Wadena's feral cats, I had the idea of re-homing feral cats. So far, I have tamed three feral cats that would be tame enough to go to a home. Jim De Boon explained that he does the same thing but actually makes a financial loss. Cats he rehomes go to farms and acreages after they have been nurtured or spayed. No one will pay for a cat, so he just gives them away and relies on donations. But it has cured the problem of feral cats in areas where a problem existed and reduced numbers enough so that complaints are minimal to non-existent, and litters of kittens are few and far. With the cats in Wadena there are those who will feed and look after the feral cats and others who just don't want them around. I have found if a place a feral cat in a different area other than where they were caught, they just end up back in the same place.

Would council be willing to still pay for neuter and spay and give cats away to farms and acreages who want them.

Donations are still coming in in the way of food for cats and dogs.

Regards

Andy Labdon.