

Craig, Sondra

From: Elsen, Nikki
Sent: Thursday, December 8, 2022 8:47 AM
To: Craig, Sondra
Subject: FW: Animal Control Technician becoming a police department position

-----Original Message-----

From: V D <d_valerie_79@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 8, 2022 8:41 AM
To: ZZ Council Members <ZZCouncilMembers@cityoflacrosse.org>
Subject: Animal Control Technician becoming a police department position

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I first heard about this is early November and am in support of the city changing the current system to a police department animal control technician.

Being dedicated to only city of la crosse will save response time on some calls when current AC officers are working in other areas and will also allow easier sharing of information and police departments support for the La Crosse only technician. It also will decrease the geographic/active case/open case situation knowledge that the employee will have to remember/be familiar with, only having the responsibility for La Crosse calls. I feel many AC issues are repetitive and households/animals/and owners become known to the AC staff; having less geographic range might make it easier to assist those households with more in depth assistance to get them in compliance and hopefully make their animals and neighbors happier.

At the time back in November I casually talked off the record with a CRHS employee (who is now management after at least 17 years of being involved there; back when we met there while I was a 4 year participant in the animal therapy program with my personal dog) I was given information that there were approximately 370-380 city of la crosse calls in a year and that CRHS would still be used as holding facilities.

I have been a lifelong Wisconsin resident (La Crosse since 2000, La Crosse homeowner since 2006) and grew up in the Beloit/Janesville area living and working in those and the surrounding communities. Both of those cities have police department employee animal control along with most other cities of our similar size in WI. La Crosse area is the one that was always different from the normal procedures having a contractor provided service.

I don't know the financial savings this change would bring but I imagine that La Crosse is likely paying a larger portion for current services than the smaller nearby communities with time of current AC being split in many more directions and a majority of time being spent on transport/driving a larger geographic area so we might not be getting the percentage of services equal to our expense or payment.

Again back to my base point that I am in support of the police department run La Crosse Animal Control.

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