

**Selectmen's Workshop**  
**Monday, February 23, 2015**

Chairman Morgan called the workshop to order at 3:00 PM. Present were Selectmen Richard Morgan, Robert Freeman and Franklin Riley, and Ellen White, Town Administrator, who recorded the minutes. Also present from Lakes Region Humane Society were Director Megan Fichter, and Board of Directors members Ivette Babylon and Joann Fuller.

Morgan provided some history on the partnership between the Town and Lakes Region Humane Society.

Morgan stated that the Town has no mechanism in place to collect fines or shelter fees unless it goes through the court process which is why the Animal Shelter Agreement was amended by the Board of Selectmen.

Morgan questioned how often the shelter fees or fines are not paid when a pet-owner retrieves their pet. Fichter answered approximately 30% of the time. Fichter further stated that payment plans and volunteerism options are often offered to assist with the payment of fees. However, it is not always followed through with and the burden is then absorbed by the Humane Society.

Discussion took place on the fine assessment for those in violation of the civil penalty for allowing a dog to run at large. Riley stated that he has an issue with paying for irresponsible pet owners. Fichter added that the Humane Society does not want to receive a bad reputation for holding animals' hostage for uncollected fees.

Agreement was made that there is no issue with animals being held for protective hold as restitution is settled during the court hearing.

Fichter reviewed the Cost of Care Bill currently in legislation and requested that the Selectmen speak in favor of it.

Fichter also commended the Town's Dog Officer.

Riley suggested that the words "unwilling to pay" be removed from the Animal Shelter Agreement. All agreed to this amendment.

Fichter will provide a figure on how often dogs are released without payment and also on any recurring offenders. Fichter, Babylon and Fuller were dismissed at 3:45 PM.

White presented the job descriptions for the Zoning Enforcement Officer and Recreation Director for review. The Selectmen will review for additional discussion next week.

Discussion took place on reporting updates to the Board of Selectmen on a weekly/monthly basis.

An estimate for maintenance of the roads in Knox Mountain Association was provided by Brad Harriman, Public Works Director. Brief discussion took place on the road specifications required for the Town to take over the maintenance on private roads.

Being no further input, the workshop was adjourned at 4:05 PM.

---

Richard H. Morgan

---

Robert C. Freeman

---

Franklin R. Riley

To be approved 3/2/2015