



Legislation Text

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City of Alexandria, Virginia

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MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** SEPTEMBER 18, 2019

**TO:** THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** MARK B. JINKS, CITY MANAGER /s/

**DOCKET TITLE:**

Consideration of the Appointment of the Chief Animal Control Officer.

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**ISSUE:** Appointment of Chief Animal Control Officer for the City of Alexandria.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That City Council approve the appointment of Mr. Kevin D. Hearst, Sr., as Chief Animal Control Officer pursuant to City Code Section 5-7-44, which includes the requirement that Council appoint the City's Chief Animal Control Officer.

**DISCUSSION:** The City's Vola Lawson Animal Shelter has been operated under contract by the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria ("AWLA" or "League") since 1989. The League is also responsible for the hiring and managing of animal control officers and a chief of animal control who enforce City and State animal control laws in Alexandria. The City Code provides that "a chief animal control officer shall be appointed by City Council and may be removed by Council or the City Manager." The League and the City have conducted the necessary background checks and staff recommends that Mr. Hearst be appointed the position of Chief Animal Control Officer, the position that oversees the Animal Control Division of the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: Qualifications Statement  
Attachment 2: Chief Animal Control Officer Position Description

**STAFF:**

Laura Triggs, Deputy City Manager  
Megan Webb, Executive Director/CEO, Animal Welfare League of Alexandria  
Jeremy McPike Director, Department of General Services

Alfred Coleman, Deputy Director, Department of General Services  
Stella Hanley, Chief Operating Officer, Animal Welfare League of Alexandria