



Legislation Text

---

File #: 21-0161, Version: 1

---

City of Alexandria, Virginia

---

MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** SEPTEMBER 16, 2020

**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.

---

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

**RECOMMENDATION:** That City Council approve the appointment of Mr. Anthony Rankin 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) since 1989. Under this contract, the AWLA is responsible for the hiring and management 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." Mr. Rankin was recommended for this position after an extensive search for candidates and interviews conducted by the AWLA Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer approval by the AWLA Board. The AWLA and the City have conducted the necessary background checks and recommend that Mr. Rankin be appointed the position of Chief Animal Control Officer to oversee the Animal Control Division of the AWLA.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

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

**STAFF:**

Laura Triggs, Deputy City Manager  
Stella Hanley, Executive Director/CEO, Animal Welfare League of Alexandria

Jeremy McPike Director, Department of General Services  
Alfred Coleman, Deputy Director, Department of General Services