



# Committee of the Whole Report

<b>Meeting date:</b>	June 30, 2020
<b>Title:</b>	Permanent Dog Tags and Yearly Licence Renewal
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Lindsey Glazier, clerk's department
<b>Approved by:</b>	Laura Johnston, CAO

## Recommendation

That council endorses the recommendation by staff to switch dog tags to a permanent tag system with annual licence fees; and further.

That council amend by-law number #87-2009 Part II 2.b. to reflect the tag-for-life system.

## Executive summary

The Municipality of West Grey currently has a yearly dog tag and licencing system. Moving to a permanent dog tag for life program, with only an annual fees payable, will increase efficiency, decrease administrative workload, decrease costs associated with purchasing and mailing dog tags yearly and provide a convenient way for residents to obtain and manage their pet's tags.

## Background and discussion

Currently, West Grey offers yearly dog tags licences. Dog tags cost residents \$15-\$50 per tag depending on the number of dogs registered to an individual/family. A tag is issued for each dog, and renewal is done on an annual basis.

Staff investigated how other municipalities provide permanent tags for dogs and would like to offer residents a convenient way of obtaining a dog tag in a financially responsible manner.

Under a tag-for-life model, the municipality will no longer need to re-order and pay for tags every year. The municipality will save on the cost of yearly tags, as well as the cost of postage. The current postage cost to mail a single dog tag is \$1.80. The cost to purchase yearly tags is \$1,360.55. With a permanent dog tag system, our finance department and municipal administrative staff will no longer need to organize, mail and update tags yearly. Tags will need to be entered into the system only once, and invoices for yearly licence renewal will be sent out. Physical tags on-site to manage will be significantly less with the new system. Currently, the municipality purchased 1,800 dog tags yearly for distribution to dog owners.



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## Legal and legislated requirements

Municipal Act - Sections 390 to 400 of the Municipal Act S.O. 2001, c.25, authorizes Councils of Municipalities to pass by-laws imposing fees or charges on any class of persons for services or activities provided or done by or on behalf of it, and for the use of its property including property under its control.

## Financial and resource implications

The Municipality of West Grey will save on the cost of yearly dog tags and mailing, while still being able to manage a responsible dog tag system.

## Staffing implications

None, however, staff workload will decrease with this efficiency in place.

## Consultation

Becky Weltz, Tax Collector  
Kerri Mighton, Director of Finance/Treasurer  
Township of Chatsworth  
Municipality of Middlesex Centre  
City of Hamilton, Animal Services

## Alignment to strategic vision plan

Pillar: build a better future  
Goal: vibrant community  
Strategy: be responsible stewards of tax dollars

## Attachments

None

## Next steps

On council approval, the Municipality of West Grey will begin to inform the public and implement permanent dog tags for January 1, 2021.

Respectfully submitted:

Lindsey Glazier, clerk's office