

**Work Session Meeting
March 11, 2020**

Work Session on the feral cat issues inside city limits.

Members present were Mayor Linda Spencer, Council President Trisha Callahan, Councilor Deena Den, Councilor Loren Den, Councilor Stacy Equity and Councilor Anna Huerta. Council Vice President Alvin Thompson was absent.

Staff present was City Recorder Lori Paxton.

Audience in attendance was Kate Robinson, Kathy Rambo, Peggy & Keith Gilliam, Wendy Diamond and Jerri Morris.

Mayor Spencer called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.
Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Spencer briefly explained some of the feral cat problems in town. President Callahan donated \$20 to be used toward a fund for spaying.

Kathy Rambo introduced a friend of hers, Wendy Diamond, and said she is a local expert on feral cats. Wendy said this problem is a world wide issue and the best way to handle it is through a Trap, Neuter & Release program, (TNR). She said once you neuter the cat, then release them back to their colony. This way they can not produce babies and will eventually die of old age or the elements. And it is important that you keep feeding them. If you just remove the cats and place them somewhere else, they will continue to produce and be an even larger problem somewhere else. Wendy gave a brief history of her involvement in the program and what it takes to get it up and running.

Mayor Spencer asked what the process would be to start a program here? Kathy Rambo said she would volunteer to help coordinate the program. We would tell the public at least 2 weeks before the trap date, that way they can make sure their pets stay indoors and doesn't accidentally get caught in a trap. We would also hang fliers and advertise on social media when the trap dates are.

Wendy said she will out find out who is available to help with the program and to help with the spaying costs. She said she does not charge for her services, but does take donations for the clinics and vets.

Wendy said the feral cat issue is a community problem everywhere, and it take a community to solve it.

President Callahan said this group does an awesome job and the town will benefit from their volunteer services. Mayor Spencer said she admires their passion for the cats and also said the council will discuss a way to contribute to the cause at their regular meeting next week.

Mayor Spencer thanked everyone who attended and then closed the meeting at 8:10 pm.

Minutes submitted by City Recorder Lori Paxton.