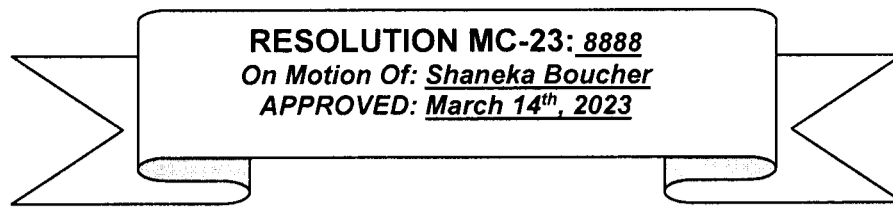


FUENTES
3/14/2023



R-42

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING AN AD HOC COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE AND OFFER RECOMMENDATIONS TO CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CAMDEN REGARDING POSSIBLY AMENDING CAMDEN CODE CHAPTER 188, ARTICLE VI TO HELP REDUCE AND CONTROL FERAL CAT COLONIES IN THE CITY OF CAMDEN

WHEREAS, the City of Camden has a large number of feral cat colonies in the City of Camden; and

WHEREAS, feral cat colonies, if left unchecked, could lead to increased health and safety risks for the residents of the City of Camden as well as the feral cats in the feral cat colony; and

WHEREAS, the Camden City Code currently has Chapter 188, Article VI, Feral Cats; Feeding, Trapping and Impoundment of Strays; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Camden desires to explore amending Chapter 188, Article VI of the Camden Code, Feral Cats; Feeding, Trapping and Impoundment of Strays, to consider additional possible mechanisms for reducing and controlling feral cat colonies, including but not limited to, establishing and possibly implementing a more encompassing trap, neuter and return program (“TNR Program”), which would include vaccinating the feral cat population against rabies, within the City of Camden and the costs that would arise therefrom; and

WHEREAS, various municipalities in the State of New Jersey have implemented various TNR Programs for feral colony cats, including but not limited to: utilizing internal municipal resources for a TNR Program; utilizing non-profit organizations; and/or using a Feral Cat Committee to establish and implement TNR Programs through Volunteers; and

WHEREAS, City Council of the City of Camden believes that it is in the best interests of the City of Camden that valuable input be received from residents of the City of Camden as well as those individuals with significant expertise in reducing and controlling feral cat colonies, in determining whether Chapter 188, Article VI should be amended; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Camden now seeks to establish an Ad Hoc Committee comprised of residents of the City of Camden and individuals with significant expertise in reducing and controlling feral cat colonies, including but not limited to, establishing and implementing a more encompassing TNR Program, which would include vaccinating the feral cat population against rabies, in the City of Camden; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Camden that it hereby establishes an Ad Hoc Committee comprised of residents of the City of Camden and individuals with significant expertise in reducing and controlling feral cat colonies and to examine and make recommendations to the Administration and to Council of the City of Camden on possibly amending Chapter 188, Article VI, of the Camden Code, Feral Cats; Feeding, Trapping and Impoundment of Strays, which would include but not be limited to: (1) establishing and implementing a more encompassing TNR Program, which would include vaccinating the feral cat population against rabies, in the City of Camden; (2) reporting on the number, location and types of feral cats and colonies in the City of Camden; (3) reporting on the number of feral cats which have been trapped, neutered or spayed, vaccinated against rabies and returned to the location where they were trapped; and (4) considering the costs that would arise from instituting such programs to reduce or control feral cat populations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Camden that the Ad Hoc Committee shall be named the “Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee”.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Camden that the Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee shall consist of five (5) members appointed by Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Camden that meetings and votes of the Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee shall be conducted in accordance with Roberts Rules unless such rules are otherwise inconsistent with state law or the Camden City Code and shall be subject to the Open Public Meetings Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Camden that members of the Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee shall serve without compensation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee, once fully constituted, shall begin its work and shall report to the Administration and to City Council of the City of Camden by no later than July 6, 2023, with its recommendations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee members shall avoid conflicts of interest, including using their positions as Feral Cat Ad Hoc Committee members to secure unwarranted privileges or advantages for themselves or others or performing any conduct which could impair or prejudice their objectivity or independence of judgment in the exercise of their official duties.

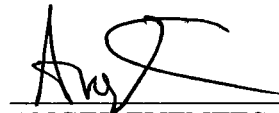
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27BBB-23, a true copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the State Commissioner of Community Affairs, who shall have ten (10) days from the receipt thereof to veto this Resolution. All notices of veto shall be filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

Date: March 14, 2023

The above has been reviewed
and approved as to form



DANIEL S. BLACKBURN
City Attorney



ANGEL FUENTES
President, City Council

ATTEST:



LUIS PASTORIZA
Municipal Clerk