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RESOLUTION NO. 2021-06

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF HILLSBORO BEACH, FLORIDA, EXPRESSING ITS SUPPORT OF THE BROWARD COUNTY AUDIT OF THE ANIMAL CARE AND ADOPTION DIVISION, REPORT NO. 21-05, DATED DECEMBER 16, 2020; PROVIDING FOR ITS SUPPORT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GUIDELINES AND BEST PRACTICES BY THE ANIMAL CARE AND ADOPTION DIVISION WITH THE GOAL OF PROVIDING BETTER CARE FOR THE DOGS AND CATS MAINTAINED AT THE SHELTER; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Broward County Adoption Shelter is located at 2400 SW 42nd Street Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312 and is maintained and operated by Broward County through the Animal Care and Adoption Division for the purposes of providing care of dogs and cats;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners requested that an audit of the overall operation of the Broward County Shelter be undertaken by the Broward County Office of the County Auditor; and

WHEREAS, on December 16, 2020, the Office of the County Auditor issued its audit that among other things, the operation of the Shelter does not consistently adhere to best practices and laws, and that the programs and processes utilized at the Broward County Shelter are not operating effectively; and

WHEREAS, the audit identifies that 78% of the calls from the public, the majority of which relate directly to interest in the animals, go unanswered; and

WHEREAS, the audit indicates that the Broward County Shelter is understaffed by 33% and needs to increase staffing by 30-36 full-time employees; and

WHEREAS, the audit identifies that the use of volunteers has been eliminated for months, and recommends that it be reinstated and efficiently administered; and

WHEREAS, the operation of the Shelter results in animals in interior kennels are left in the dark for 14-18 hours a day; and

WHEREAS, the current operation at the Shelter relative to animal confinement (kennels/cages) fails to meet industry standards, which requires a minimum of two feet of space between defecation, feeding and resting areas for felines and soft bedding for canines; and

WHEREAS, the Broward County Shelter does not meet “no-kill” guidelines established by Broward County and statistics for October 2020 show 115 animal deaths. 27 died “in care” and 88 were euthanized, often without following proper protocol for public outreach before being euthanized; and

1 WHEREAS, the audit indicates that basic medical care is lacking due to insufficient
2 veterinary oversight; and
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4 WHEREAS, the audit identifies that outdoor canine play areas go unutilized while dogs
5 are kept in cages day after day; and
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7 WHEREAS, the Town Commission of the Town of Hillsboro Beach deems it in the
8 best interest of the Town to express its support of the Broward County Audit of the Animal
9 Care and Adoption Division dated December 16, 2020.
10

11 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF**
12 **THE TOWN OF HILLSBORO BEACH, FLORIDA THAT:**
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14 **SECTION 1.** The foregoing "WHEREAS" clauses are true and correct and hereby
15 ratified and confirmed by the Town Commission. All exhibits attached hereto are hereby
16 incorporated herein.
17

18 **SECTION 2.** The Town Commission of the Town of Hillsboro Beach, Florida
19 hereby expresses its support of the Broward County Audit of the Animal Care and Adoption
20 Division dated December 16, 2020; a copy of the Audit is attached hereto as Exhibit "A".
21

22 **SECTION 3.** The Town Commission of the Town of Hillsboro Beach, Florida
23 expresses its concern that the Broward County Shelter, due to operational failures, fails to
24 provide adequate care for dogs and cats and therefore the Town Commission fully supports that
25 all the recommendations contained in the audit be immediately implemented and adhered to by
26 the Broward County Animal Care and Adoption Division.
27

28 **SECTION 4.** The appropriate Town officials are authorized and directed to execute
29 the necessary documents to comply with this Resolution.
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31 **SECTION 5.** All Resolutions or parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith, be and the
32 same are repealed to the extent of such conflict.
33

34 **SECTION 6.** If any clause, section or other part of this Resolution shall be held by
35 any court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, such unconstitutional or
36 invalid part shall be considered eliminated and will in no way affect the validity of the other
37 provisions of this Resolution.
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39 **SECTION 7.** This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage
40 and adoption.
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ADOPTED by the Town Commission of the Town of Hillsboro Beach, Florida this ____day
of _____ 2021.

TOWN OF HILLSBORO BEACH, FLORIDA

Deborah L. Tarrant, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sherry D. Henderson, CMC Town Clerk