

VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS, OHIO

RESOLUTION 2022-62

Authorizing the Yellow Springs Police Department to Develop and Administer a Therapy Dog Program

WHEREAS, Following extensive research on the part of Chief Burge into the benefits of a therapy dog program, including speaking with handlers and administrators of current programs and examining data on outcomes for therapy dog assisted police encounters, the YSPD wishes to develop such a program for local use; and,

WHEREAS, the Greene County Board of Mental Health and Recovery has made available grant funds sufficient to initially implement this program from the standpoint of materials needed; and,

WHEREAS, SICSA (Society for the Improvement of Conditions for Stray Animals) of Dayton and the Green County Animal Shelter have both agreed to search and test their canines for a dog suitable in temperament for receiving Therapy Dog training; and,

WHEREAS, Both SICSA and Greene County Animal Shelter have agreed that, once a dog is selected, they will work with members of YSPD to properly train them as handlers,

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, by Council for the Village of Yellow Springs, State of Ohio that:

Section 1: The Village Manager is authorized to approve a comprehensive YSPD policy, written to assure good community fit as well as best practices gleaned from existing therapy dog programs.

Section 2. Council expressly finds that the potential benefit of such a program can improve interactions with our most at risk and/or vulnerable citizens, and commends this proactive step.

Brian Housh, Council President

Passed: 11-7-2022

Attest: _____

Judy Kintner, Clerk of Council

Roll Call:

Housh __Y__

Stokes __Y__

MacQueen __Y__

Brown __Y__

Devore Leonard __Y__