Meeting Date: 2/19/2020
Sponsor(s): Lopez (15), Coleman (16)
Type: Resolution
Title: Call for hearing(s) regarding death of horse in Englewood community and call on Departments of Animal Care and Control, Police, and Streets and Sanitation to discuss interdepartmental policies and procedures for managing service requests
Committee(s) Assignment: Committee on Budget and Government Operations
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, independent animal advocates, 7th District Police officers and Animal Care & Control officers assembled on the 1000 block of West 61st Street early Sunday morning, February 16, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, all responding to the location discovered one dead horse, one living horse and a Rottweiler on the three-lot property listed as being zoned RS-3, a designation that allows for detached housing on an at least 2,500 square feet in total lot size; and,

WHEREAS, various and multiple complaints and calls for service about this location and the various livestock present including horses, goats, chickens, pigs, llamas and a camel have been received beginning in March; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago created Service Request # 19-01248742 on March 31, 2019 which responded to by Chicago Animal Care & Control on April 14, 2019 with all reported animals gone on arrival (see attached Exhibit A); and,

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago Department of Streets & Sanitation informed Animal Care & Control on July 22, 2019 regarding “flies and unclean yard” at the aforementioned location with a possible “injured” horse which Animal Care & Control responded to and engaged owner (see attached Exhibit B) whom was give three citations listed as A000057403, A000057404, A000057405 (see attached Exhibit C); and,

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago created Service Request # 19-02053980 on July 27, 2019 which responded to by Chicago Animal Care & Control on July 28, 2019 which Animal Care & Control responded to without the owner on the premises (see attached Exhibit D), issued three citations listed as A000057406, A000057407, A000057408 (see attached Exhibit E) on the “Proof of Service” provided (see attached Exhibit F); and,

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago Department of Streets & Sanitation again informed Animal Care & Control on August 16, 2019 regarding a “horse” at the aforementioned location noting the “animal is skinny” which Animal Care & Control responded to on August 16, 2019 (see attached Exhibit G) issuing a letter conveying no outcomes or violations found (see attached Exhibit H); and,

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago created Service Request # 19-02624147 on October 1, 2019 which responded to by Chicago Animal Care & Control on October 15, 2019 which Animal Care & Control responded to on August 16, 2019 issuing a letter regarding... (see attached Exhibit I);
WHEREAS, Chicago Animal Care & Control responded to the events of February 16, 2020 which Animal Care & Control responding to reports of a dead horse, living horse and dog all at the afore referenced location, issuing a preliminary narrative & photos (see attached Exhibit J) and subsequently issuing one citation on February 18, 2020 listed as A000052414 (see attached Exhibit K) and associated “Proof of Service” (see attached Exhibit L); 

WHEREAS, Exhibit C and Exhibit E are the same set of ANOV tickets dated in August, 2019 and Exhibit F is the “Proof of Service” issued in July, 2019 for these issued citations; and,

WHEREAS, Municipal Code Chapter 7-12-210 is clear that a $25.00 license is required if the horse’s purpose of the horse is to drawing a carriage as defined in Chapter 9-108; and,

WHEREAS, Municipal Code Chapter 7-12-260 explicitly lists thirteen requirements for horse carriage operators maintaining their horses, including requirements for health, grooming and living standards; and,

WHEREAS, Municipal Code Chapter 7-12-290 explicitly lists nine prohibitions that would otherwise be considered animal cruelty such as failing to provide proper food, water or sanitary shelter, abandon any animal in any place where it may suffer; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, the Committee on Budget and Government Operations hold hearings regarding the circumstances and potential departmental breakdowns over the last eleven months that led to the death of the horse in the Englewood community on February 16, 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO, that department representatives of Animal Care & Control, Chicago Police and the Department of Streets & Sanitation discuss the interdepartmental policies and procedures in currently place to ensure those requests are logged, maintained and acted upon.