

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Claire Powell, City Manager

**FROM:** Chris McGinn, Director of Neighborhood & Inspection Services

**DATE:** September 18, 2023

**SUBJECT:** **Consideration of an Ordinance of the Lewisville City Council Amending Chapter 3, Division 3, Animal Services Advisory Committee, Section 3-52, to Provide that the Requirement that Committee Members Be Citizens or Business Owners in the City or Citizens of the City's Extraterritorial Jurisdiction Does Not Apply to Certain Member Positions Mandated by State Law; Providing a Repealer, Severability And An Effective Date; And Declaring An Emergency.**

### BACKGROUND

The city created the Animal Services Advisory Committee (ASAC) to assist the animal shelter in complying with the State Animal Shelter Act and to provide greater transparency to the public concerning the operation of municipally operated animal shelters. The state mandates the committee must be composed of at least one licensed veterinarian, one municipal official, one person whose duties include the daily operation of an animal shelter, and one representative from an animal welfare organization. State law does not require that those committee members be residents or business owners of the appointing city.

### ANALYSIS

The current city ordinance is more restrictive than state law requiring all ASAC members be citizens or business owners in the city or citizens of the city's extraterritorial jurisdiction. This requirement has proven to be difficult when trying to fill specific vacancies on the ASAC. It has proven difficult to identify licensed veterinarians and representatives from an animal welfare organization who are interested in serving and are citizens or business owners in the city or citizens of the city's extraterritorial jurisdiction.

The proposed amendment will modify this requirement by removing it for the licensed veterinarian, the person with duties including daily operation of the shelter, and the representative from an animal welfare organization. Adding this exception broadens the applicant pool for potential committee members, which will help fill vacant positions faster.

**CITY STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION**

That the City Council approve the ordinance as set forth in the caption above.