

MEMORANDUM

TO: Donna Barron, City Manager

FROM: Kevin Deaver, Police Chief

DATE: July 6, 2021

SUBJECT: **Approval of an Agreement to Transfer Ownership of a Law Enforcement Animal; and Authorization for the City Manager to Execute the Agreement.**

BACKGROUND

On May 1, 2015, the Police Department purchased a Belgian Malinois from Hub City Canine Consultants. The canine, named "Cziko," was dual certified in narcotics detection and patrol functions. Cziko was placed into service with trained handler, Police Officer Shane Menz. Since that time, Officer Menz has served as Cziko's handler. Lewisville police canines live with the officers that serve as their handlers. Accordingly, Cziko has lived with Officer Menz ever since he was brought home from the vendor. Strong bonds are created between these dogs and their handlers. They truly become a part of the officer's family.

During a recent trip to the veterinarian, it was determined that Cziko needs to be retired due to his age and his restricted functionality. Based on this determination, the Department currently has Cziko on restricted duty until his retirement. He is currently only being utilized for narcotics detection.

Title 6, Subtitle A, Subchapter L of the Texas Government Code outlines the process for the retirement of a law enforcement animal. Section 614.212 discusses the suitability and eligibility requirements that must be met in order for an animal to be transferred. Section 614.213 discusses the requirements for the transferee. Section 614.214 outlines the contract process to be used to complete the transfers allowed by the subchapter.

ANALYSIS

Cziko has served with Officer Menz for his entire deployment with the Lewisville Police Department. Officer Menz and Cziko have become quite close during those six years of service. The City's veterinarian has suggested that Cziko retire due to his age and his restricted functionality. Cziko meets the eligibility requirements to be transferred to a new owner and Officer Shane Menz meets the eligibility requirements to be the transferee.

RECOMMENDATION

It is City staff's recommendation that the City Council approve the agreement and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement as set forth in the caption above.