

**THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE**  
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 218

EFFECTIVE ~~APPROVED~~ May 18, 2009

WHEREAS, The Providence Animal Control Center has been the subject of numerous local news reports highlighting the various administrative and operational problems at the center; and

WHEREAS, Several dog owners whose animals were at the shelter for brief periods complained that their dogs were malnourished and had suffered apparent mistreatment while at the center; and

WHEREAS, Administration of the shelter is a serious concern, based upon years of complaints regarding management, and in light of the circumstances under which the most recent director resigned; and

WHEREAS, The animal control officers and the shelter operations are overseen by the Providence Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Many municipal shelters have demonstrated improved conditions and effectiveness when shelter operations are overseen by civilians; and

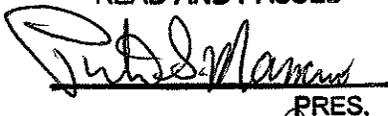
WHEREAS, The Providence Animal Control Center and the animals under its care would benefit from a review and overhaul of management practices and operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Providence does hereby establish a special commission to investigate and make recommendations to the City Council and the Mayor regarding the administration and operation of the Providence Animal Control Center, to include best practices, humane treatment of animals, and personnel management; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

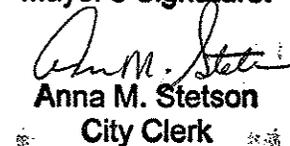
- 1) The special commission shall include one representative each from the following organizations: Defenders of Animals; the Humane Society of Northwestern Rhode Island; and the Warwick Animal Shelter, as well as two members of the City Council; and
- 2) The special commission shall make its recommendations to the City Council and the Mayor within 120 days of adoption of this resolution.

IN CITY COUNCIL  
MAY 7 2009  
READ AND PASSED

  
PRES.

  
CLERK

Effective without the  
Mayor's Signature:

  
Anna M. Stetson  
City Clerk