Animal Rescue League
of Berks County, Inc.

October 12, 2015

Dear Supervisors,

The Animal Rescue League of Berks County is committed to serving our community in every way possible. Each year, thousands of homeless pets come through our doors. We are the primary resource for the investigation of animal cruelty and the only shelter in Berks County contracted with municipalities to accept stray animals. Our animal control service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and 365 days a year. These services include assisting municipal police departments on animal calls, investigating animal cruelty cases, capturing stray animals, and picking up injured animals. All of these services are available to your township for an annual donation to the ARL and allow you to preserve the valuable resources of your law and codes enforcement officers by freeing up their time to deal with other matters of importance.

On average, municipalities across Berks County pay 50 cents per resident over the age of 18, which is in line with other municipality contract rates across the country. **In 2015, Maidencreek Township committed $1,000 to the ARL and we accepted 15 stray animals from Maidencreek Township (that we know of), and responded to 16 Animal Control and Humane Officer calls.**

I ask you to please consider an increase for 2016. Only 12% of our funding comes from municipalities, but our largest expense is providing these services and the subsequent care required by the animals that come into our shelter. We do not make a profit from these services, but we do understand these services are a vital part of a safe community, and we hope that you agree.

We look forward to the continued cooperation between our organizations in our joint effort to improve animal welfare in Berks County. Enclosed you will find two contracts. Please return a signed copy of one contract along with a check payable to the *Animal Rescue League of Berks County,* and keep the other copy for your records.

Thank you for your help and dedication to providing care for Berks County's homeless pets!

Sincerely,

Liz McCauley
Executive Director
Animal Rescue League of Berks County

Animal Rescue League
of Berks County, Inc.

The ARL's mission is to impact all aspects of humane treatment of animals through quality service, accommodation, and education of pet owners and the community.

Presentation
Maidencreek Township
October 12, 2015

Statistics

- Open admission shelter- we do not turn anyone away regardless of their ability to pay fees
- Only shelter with a 24-7 night drop off building within an 80 mile radius
- Approximately 6,000 animals come through our door annually- 2/3 cats, 1/3 dogs & critters
- Average intake of cats is 500 per month during June, July and August
- 90% live release rate for dogs
- ARL has taken in 3,648 stray animals in 2015; **15 of which came from Maidencreek Township**; 1,102 stray animals left in our night drop off that are of unknown origin

Animal Control/Humane Officer Services

- ARL employs 1 full time and 2 part time Animal Control Officers that provide service to the entire county
- ARL employs on-call staff that is available to the public 24-7 for distress calls, to pick up stray or injured animals and to provide answers and respond to 100's of calls every week from various municipalities
- ARL responded to 1,107 Animal Control and Humane Officer calls and complaints in 2015
- AC and HO responded to **16 calls in Maidencreek Township** in the past year

Funding

- Of our $1.4 Million annual budget, only 12% of our funding comes from municipalities or government entities
- The majority of our funding comes from individual donors and grants
- Our biggest financial drains are the costs of veterinary care and the lack of fees collected from the public
- The average cost to take in and care for an animal is $250 per animal

Programs & Partnerships

- ARL Angels Foster Program
- Patriotic Paws
- Partnership with 60 Rescue Groups
- Match.dog
- Low Cost Vaccine Clinics
- Low Cost Spay/Neuter Clinics
- Educational outreach

How Can You Help Us

- Consider an increase in your annual donation to the ARL to better help cover the costs of our services to your municipality
- Target: 50¢ per resident
- Allow us the opportunity to educate your residents

How can we help you?

AGREEMENT

This Agreement made this_____ day of _____20__, between the ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BERKS COUNTY, INC. hereinafter known as "ARL" and the _____, a political subdivision existing under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, hereinafter known as "Municipality".

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS the ARL, is presently engaged in a non-profit function providing services and shelter to stray and abused animals;

WHEREAS the Municipality desires to provide for the proper animal control and protect the health and safety of its citizens;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, the parties hereby agree as follows:

1. Time of Performance. The Municipality shall employ the ARL for a period of one Year commencing January 1, 2016, or as soon as a signed contract is received through December 31, 2016 to provide services relative to stray, abused, injured and any other domestic animals, as shall be more fully set forth herein.
2. On a daily basis , the ARL shall investigate all complaints of violation of the Dog law, Cruelty Law (18 Pa.C.S.A. 5511)
3. Services Provided. The ARL shall perform services for the Municipality, which shall include the following:
    a. Provisions for shelter and board for stray domestic animals in accordance with State law.
    b. Provide an on call employee for twenty-four hour emergency service for injured stray domestic animals.
    c. Pickup service for all domestic animals during normal business hours: Monday & Friday 11AM to 5 PM, Tuesday & Thursday 11AM to 8 PM, Saturday 11AM to 3 PM, Wednesday & Sunday No hours. We will pickup domestic animals twenty-four hours a day in emergencies only.
    d. Keep all adoptable animals for as long as physically equipped to house them.

e. Disposal of stray animals at the discretion of ARL after the appropriate time at no additional cost to the Municipality. The ARL agrees to remove all dead animals from its premises at no cost to the Municipality.

f. The ARL shall have no responsibility or obligation to remove dead animals, domestic or wild, from roadways or private property within the Municipality.

4. The ARL shall, to the best of its ability, conduct its function and operation in accordance with the ethics, rules and regulations set forth in its Charter and By-Laws. The ARL shall also operate in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and in accordance with the established rules and regulations of the Municipality which do not in any way conflict with the normal course of operations of the ARL.

5. The ARL is an independent organization and in no way, directly or indirectly, shall the ARL be deemed an employee of the Municipality and none of its agents or officers shall be construed as, or represent themselves as employees of the Municipality.

6. The ARL shall be responsible to insure all employees for workers compensation coverage and all of its employees, vehicles and equipment for liability.

7. Termination: This agreement or any part thereof may be terminated for any of the following reasons:

   a. If unknown circumstances arise and both parties agree that it is in the best interest of all involved to terminate the contract.

   b. By the Municipality if the ARL violates any of the provisions of this contract.

   c. By the ARL if the Municipality violates any of the provisions of this contract

   d. At any time for any reason, other than a default by the other party under the terms of this contract as set forth in subsection (b) and (c) above, upon ninety (90) prior written notice by either party hereto.

8. This Agreement shall be governed by, construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

9. This Agreement constitutes the entire Agreement between the parties and any prior understanding or representation of any kind preceding the date of this Agreement shall not be binding on either party except to the extent incorporated in this Agreement.

10. The undersigned officer, agent, or employee of the Municipality and ARL represents and warrants that they have the authority to contract and bind the Municipality and ARL

IN WITNESS WHEREOF: The parties have executed this Agreement as of the day and year written first above.

MUNICIPALITY

By:_____

Title:_____

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BERKS COUNTY, INC.

By:_____

Liz McCauley, Executive Director