



City Council Report

City Council Meeting: February 25, 2020
Agenda Item: 3.H

To: Mayor and City Council
From: Cynthia Renaud, Chief of Police, Police Department
Subject: Authorization of Police Canine Retirement

Recommended Action

Staff recommends that City Council:

1. Authorize the retirement of police service dog Kai from Police service.
2. Authorize Kai be sold to Santa Monica Police Sergeant Phillip DeRyck for the sum of one dollar.

Summary

As part of a comprehensive approach to fighting crime, the Santa Monica Police Department maintains four K-9 units with a trained police canine and their officer handlers. After two years of service, police service dog Kai, a 5-year-old Belgian Malinois, is being retired. Staff recommends that Council approve the sale of Kai to his handler for the nominal sum of one dollar.

Discussion

During the past two years, police service dog Kai has been assigned to Sergeant Phillip DeRyck. During Kai's length of service, he has been involved in numerous felony arrests and apprehensions and has received commendations for his capabilities. He is also a cross trained explosive detection canine who has conducted many high-risk explosive detection searches in Santa Monica along with several other regional cities.



Kai retired from the Canine Program after two years of service in October of 2019. Kai, at 5 years of age, has developed a medical condition necessitating his retirement from active service in the Canine Program. It would be unsafe to expect Kai to continue working as an active service dog due to the problems he is experiencing. It has been Department practice, since the inception of the Canine Program, to transfer ownership of the canines that have reached the end of their active service life, to their handlers for a nominal sum. This allows the handler, his/her family, and the police dog who has become a member of their family, to continue their journey together. Other law enforcement agencies that use canines have the same practice. This practice is in the best interest of the animal. Council has approved such transfers in the past when service dogs have reached an age or developed medical conditions which prevent their continued service.

Financial Impacts and Budget Actions

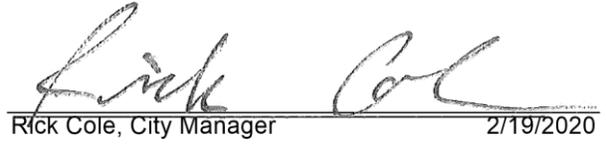
Staff seeks authority to approve the sale of canine Kai to his handler for the nominal sum of one dollar. Payment from the sale will be deposited to account 01180001.415483.

Prepared By: Jeffrey Glaser, Lieutenant

Approved

Forwarded to Council


Cynthia Renaud, Chief of Police 2/10/2020


Rick Cole, City Manager 2/19/2020