

# CITY OF HIGH POINT

## AGENDA ITEM



### **Title: Declaration of Surplus for Police Canine**

**From:** Kenneth J. Shultz, Police Chief

**Meeting Date:** May 6 2019

**Public Hearing:** N/A

**Advertising Date /**  
**Advertised By:** 4/26/2019

**Attachments:** None

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### **PURPOSE:**

This is a request to declare Police Canine Jax as surplus and to approval the disposition/sale of him to a private party for non-police related purposes.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The High Point Police Department Purchased Canine Jax from Von Liche Kennel of Indiana in January of 2017. Jax was purchased to serve as a dual-purpose canine and was expected to perform narcotics detection and apprehension work. At the time of purchase, Jax was identified as having a very strong possession drive. To some extent, this remains a desirable trait for police working dogs, however if overly strong, it can impact their performance. Jax was assessed and it was predicted that the trait would dissipate over time and that his performance would be able to be maintained at an acceptable standard.

For the past two years, although deployed and working the street, his handler and our trainers have worked to address this issue with Canine Jax. They have however, been unable to overcome it and in fact, it has gotten even stronger. The issue has manifested itself in several situations and now impacts his performance to the point that he is no longer capable of doing acceptable work. There are several examples of problems encountered during both training and live exercises and events. Examples include Jax being distracted during narcotics detection situations to the point where he ends up biting objects found on the scene and refuses to release them and return to searching. Jax has now also progressed to the point where he can no longer be verbally recalled from a decoy during apprehension work training. During a recent track for a suspect, Jax located and bit items discarded by him (sweatshirt and subsequently shoes) resulting in the handler struggling to get these items released and get Jax focused back on the track. Subsequently, the suspect was able to escape.

Although he was recently certified as meeting standards, it took an extraordinary amount of work and the handler and the training team do not have confidence in his performance and ability to continue to remain in service. They are all concerned that he is now more of a liability then an asset and have recommended retiring him.

A soon to be retired police canine handler in another jurisdiction has voiced interest in taking possession of Canine Jax.

### **BUDGET IMPACT:**

At this time, the Canine Unit's Supervisor has reassigned his dog to Jax's former handler. We will use budgeted money in the future to purchase a replacement dog, when an acceptable one is located.

**RECOMMENDATION / ACTION REQUESTED:**

The Police Department is requesting that City Council approve this request to declare Canine Jax as surplus and authorize the subsequent sell of him for one dollar.



Publish Once: May 7, 2019

PUBLIC NOTICE

Please take notice that at their regularly scheduled meeting held on Monday, May 6, 2019 at 5:30 p.m., the High Point City Council adopted a resolution authorizing the sale of a police canine, by private negotiation and sale pursuant to N.C.G.S. 160A-266. The sale shall be consummated not earlier than 10 days from the date of this notice.

This the 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2019.

Lisa B. Vierling, MMC  
High Point City Clerk

**RESOLUTION APPROVING SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY  
BY PRIVATE NEGOTIATION AND SALE PURSUANT TO N.C.G.S. 160A-266**

**WHEREAS**, the City of High Point (“City”) is owner of a police canine (“Canine Jax”) that has proven to be ineffective for its role and has therefore become surplus; and

**WHEREAS**, N.C.G.S. 160A-266 authorizes the City to dispose of surplus property by private negotiation and sale with respect to personal property valued at less than \$30,000, upon authorization of the City Council at a regular meeting and notice to the public; and

**WHEREAS**, Canine Jax is considered personal property and is valued at an amount less than \$30,000;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the City of High Point pursuant to the North Carolina General Statute 160A-266 that the personal property known as Canine Jax is valued less than \$30,000, is hereby declared surplus and the City Manager is authorized to sell Canine Jax by private negotiation and sale.

Adopted this the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

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Jay W. Wagner, Mayor

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Lisa B. Vierling,  
High Point City Clerk