Proclamation

WHEREAS, Voices of Change Animal League (V.O.C.A.L) a non-profit, 501 (3) C animal welfare organization was founded in January 2015 to help solve the homeless pet problem in the community; and

WHEREAS, the mission is to solve the homeless pet problem in our community through prevention, adoption, community outreach, education and collaboration; and

WHEREAS, the goal of building a clinic to spay and neuter animals and prevent more unwanted births was realized in November 2019; and

WHEREAS, VOCAL has responded to the changing needs of the community since the county announced the intention of becoming no-kill in 2018; and

WHEREAS, VOCAL has adjusted its programs to include outreach to struggling pet owners and heroic feral cat colony caregivers and the focus is on those companion animals most in need in this community, especially feral and community cats and large breed dogs; and

WHEREAS, VOCAL has adopted out more than 1,100 homeless pets since its inception and continues to take in and shelter animals in need; and

WHEREAS, the FIX THE FUTURE program has helped more than 2100 caregivers and owners spay and neuter their pets since inception; and

WHEREAS, the food bank in partnership with Chewy.com, R &L Carriers and 94 animal welfare partners is providing food and supplies for 7500+ homeless animals every day and VOCAL is partnered with local human services agencies to help animals in crisis; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ocala granted funds in 2018 for spay-neuter of feral cats and owned animals in need that reside in the city limits of Ocala.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kent Guinn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, Florida, do hereby proclaim March 2020 in the City of Ocala as the

Fifth Anniversary of V.O.C.A.L

in celebration of five years of service to the community as a voice for the animals.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 4th day of February 2020.

Kent Guinn, Mayor
City of Ocala