

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING DISCUSSING CHICKENS
SEPTEMBER 6, 2022
6:00 PM

LOCATION: Elsmere Community Center, 179 Dell Street, Elsmere, KY 41018.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Lenhof called the public hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: The following members were present:

Mayor Marty Lenhof
Councilwoman Gloria Grubbs
Councilman Malcolm Daniels
Councilwoman Joanne Barnett Smith
Councilwoman Nancy Bowman

Councilwoman Lisa Mitchell and Councilman Aaron Moore
were not in attendance

Mayor Lenhof announced the purpose of the public hearing is to receive input from residents about the consideration of allowing the raising of chickens for personal, family, or home use within the city limits of the City of Elsmere.

Mr. Eric Bunzow, 518 Ripple Creek Drive, Elsmere, KY, was in attendance and stated that he had given council his wishes on the keeping of chickens in the city.

City Clerk Misty Ezell read an email that she received from Rick Bogard; Mr. Bogard was not in favor of having chickens within the city limits.

City Clerk Misty Ezell stated that she had seen two comments on the city's Facebook post that were in favor of having chickens within the city limits. And had also spoken to resident Missy Andress (Buckner Street) who was not in favor of having chickens within the city limits.

This was all the public comments.

Mayor Lenhof asked the council if they had an opinion on the proposed change to allow chickens.

Councilwoman Nancy Bowman stated that with the varying sizes of lots within the city it would be hard to regulate.

Councilwoman Gloria Grubbs stated that chickens are livestock and create a bad smell. She stated that if council wishes to allow chicken that it should put a stipulation that the resident have a privacy fence as to not interfere with their neighbors. But she is not in favor of allowing chickens.

Councilwoman Barnett Smith stated that since it seems that it is only one resident who has asked to have chicken, she suggests allowing him try and see if he can comply with all the regulations prior to allowing it to be open to all residents.

Councilman Malcolm Daniels suggested the city establish a Pilot Program of three to five residents who wish to have chickens. These residents would follow all guidelines established and if they are successful then the city can open the program for expansion. City Attorney stated that if the city wished to do a pilot program it would need to be in districts and not just random residents.

September 6, 2022 Public Hearing Minutes

Mayor Lenhof stated that adding the allowance of chicken would mean a larger workload for our Code Enforcement Officers, who would be the ones that inspect the residences with chickens. He also stated that with the low turn out for the public hearing that it doesn't seem important, and we would create a problem.

Councilman Daniels stated that Mr. Bunzow had created a Facebook poll in which he had 120 responses and 86 of the people were in favor of having chickens within the city limits and 34 of those who responded were against having chickens. However, this poll does not state whether those who participated were Elsmere residents or not.

Mayor Lenhof stated that the council will review this and vote during a council meeting for direction on whether they will prepare ordinance to create legislation for allowing chickens within the city limits.

Mayor Lenhof asked for a motion to adjourn.

Councilwoman Grubbs made a motion to adjourn the public hearing and Councilwoman Barnett Smith seconded the motion

Mayor Lenhof closed the Public Hearing at 6:24 pm.



Mayor Marty Lenhof

Attest:



Misty Ezell, City Clerk