

COLLEGE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING-1
ORDINANCE O-14-08
KEEPING OF CHICKENS IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS
Thursday, September 18, 2014

ATTENDED BY:

COUNCIL:

L. Eric Bernier, Chair
Mary C. Shoemaker, Vice-Chair
Lynn B. Herman
Carla Stilson
D. Richard Francke

STAFF:

Adam T. Brumbaugh, Township Manager/Secretary
Kent N. Baker, Township Engineer
Robert T. Long, Jr., Finance Director
Michael W. Heath, Zoning Officer
Mark Holdren, CRPA Sr. Planner
Mary E. Wilson, Asst. Township Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bernier called to order at 7:01 PM the duly advertised September 18, 2014, College Township Public Hearing-1 on Ordinance O-14-08, Keeping of Chickens in Residential Areas.

Mr. Mark Holdren, CRPA Sr. Planner, stated that Ordinance O-14-08, Keeping of Chickens in Residential Areas, would modify the College Township Code to permit the keeping of chicken hens in residential areas in limited quantities and under certain conditions by amending Chapter 200, Zoning, and Chapter 95, Dogs and Cats.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Melanie Fink, Julian Drive, spoke in opposition to proposed Ordinance O-14-08, Keeping of Chickens in Residential Areas, as written, based on noise of the animals, odor, and the site of chickens and coops that would be permitted within close proximity to those living nearby. Ms. Fink added that those living in residential developments with restrictive homeowners' associations will not be impacted by this ordinance amendment; but, those without restrictive covenants will.

Mr. Thomas Hunter, Lemont, supported the proposed ordinance, as written.

Mr. Scott Stilson, Puddintown Road, supported the ordinance, as written, recognizing its offer of sufficient protection to neighbors of those owning chickens. Mr. Stilson recapped those protections as including the following: chickens would be restricted from living in front or side yards; they would live, at closest, a school bus's length away from a neighbor's house; they would live closer to their owner's house than a neighbor's; they would be screened from view by fencing or landscaping; they would be barred from causing nuisance odors or noises; and they would number, in most cases, no more than four (4).

Mr. Steve Lyncha, College Township Planning Commission (PC) member, asked how many of the sitting Council members currently live in a subdivision restricted from owning chickens by a homeowners' association and inquired into whether or not Council would be considering PC's suggestions for amendments to this proposed ordinance.

Mr. Bill Sharp, Green Acres Lane, offered support for the proposed ordinance.

Mr. Luke Leithauser, Dale Street, supported the proposed chicken ordinance, as it would allow him to have a bird.

Hearing no additional public comment, Chair Bernier called for a motion to close the public hearing.

Ms. Shoemaker moved to close Public Hearing-1 on Ordinance O-14-08, Keeping of Chickens in Residential Areas.

Ms. Stilson seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Bernier adjourned the September 18, 2014, Public Hearing-1 on Ordinance O-14-08, Keeping of Chickens in Residential Areas, at 7:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam T. Brumbaugh

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Township Manager/Secretary