



ITEM REPORT PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Agenda Date: 6/14/2022
Agenda Section: New Business

TO: Baxter Planning and Zoning Commission

FROM: Matthew Gindele, City Planner

REQUEST: PUBLIC HEARING. Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments to Title 10, Chapter 5, Section 10 "Animals" of the Baxter City Code (City File 22-25)

APPLICANT: City of Baxter: 13190 Memorywood Dr. Baxter, MN 56425

ZONING: N/A

1. Application Request

Consider an ordinance amendment to address several issues within the "Animals" ordinance relating to chickens in the City of Baxter. The primary purpose of the proposed changes is to provide greater flexibility in the Code as it relates to chickens.

2. Summary of Ordinance Amendment

When the chicken ordinance was adopted by the City in 2020 to allow chickens, staff drafted, and Council approved, a fairly restrictive ordinance that includes some pretty high standards. The thought at the time was that if the city is going to change from not allowing chickens to allowing chickens, that it would be prudent to start with a restrictive ordinance and see how it plays out for a couple of years and then make adjustments to the ordinance where the requirements are too strict. The proposed amendments address several of the requirements to have chickens that staff has identified, based on feedback from residents who have applied for a chicken permit, as being too restrictive.

The draft amended ordinance is attached.

3. Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of the draft zoning ordinance and findings of fact resolution.

Attachments

1. Draft Zoning Ordinance (redlined)
2. Findings of Fact Resolution