

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE OF THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE WOODS HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2023, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS/COURTROOM OF THE ROBERT E. NOVITKE MUNICIPAL CENTER, 20025 MACK PLAZA DR., GROSSE POINTE WOODS, MICHIGAN.

Mayor Bryant called the meeting to order at 7:23 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Bryant  
Council Members: Brown, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Vaughn  
ABSENT: None

Also Present: City Administrator Schulte  
City Attorney Walling  
Treasurer/Comptroller Murphy  
City Clerk Antolin  
Assistant City Administrator Como  
Building Department Representative Boettcher (McKenna)

Motion by Granger, seconded by Gafa, that all items on tonight's agenda, be received, placed on file, and taken in order of appearance as presented.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Brown, Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Vaughn  
No: None  
Absent: None

The purpose of tonight's meeting was to discuss the Livestock Ordinance regarding the allowance of chickens on residential properties. The Building Department Representative, Michael Boettcher, provided an overview of his report that researched other communities with ordinances allowing chickens on residential property. The communities included in his report were Ann Arbor, Berkley, Chelsea, Eastpointe, Ferndale, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Northville, and Troy. Most of these communities allowed only hen chickens with required permits.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Vaughn, that the Committee-of-the-Whole receive and place on file, the documents submitted by the City Clerk, dated February 27, 2023, with additional information regarding Livestock: Chickens Ordinance.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: Brown, Bryant, Gafa, Granger, Koester, McConaghy, Vaughn  
No: None  
Absent: None

The document submitted by the City Clerk stated that none of the other Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods have ordinances allowing chickens on residential properties. Included with the documents, were correspondences from residents opposing the allowance of chickens.

Building Representative Boettcher answered questions from the Committee regarding enforcement of the ordinance, health codes, lot sizes, location, zoning, dimensions of enclosure and slaughtering/disposal.

The Mayor asked those, in favor of and opposed to allowing chickens on residential property, to speak.

The following were in favor of:

- Paul Lechner, Anita Ave.
- Ruth A., Huntington Blvd.
- Gary Lechner, Severn Rd.

The following were opposed to:

- Rodney, Lancaster St.
- Lynn Gould, Anita Ave.
- 4 residents submitted opposing emails

Councilmember Koester suggested Mr. Boettcher draft a model ordinance prior to a vote. Councilmember McConaghy supported the idea. However, Councilmember Vaughn opposed stating that it would be too expensive to draft an ordinance just to be voted down and that the city is too dense to have chickens. The remaining Councilmembers concurred stating that allowing chickens in the city would be more of a liability.

There was a majority consensus of the Committee not to allow chickens in the city.

Under New Business, no one wished to be heard.

Under Public Comment, the following individuals were heard:

- Paul Lechner, Anita Ave.
- Catherine Dumke, E. Ballantyne Ct.

Motion by Granger, seconded by Koester, that the meeting of the Committee-of-the-Whole be adjourned at 8:09 p.m. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Paul P. Antolin  
City Clerk

---

Arthur W. Bryant  
Mayor