

MEETING of the Ordinance Subcommittee of the Town Council held Thursday, December 28, 2023 at 5:00 P.M. in the Town Building, 105 Harrisville Main St., Harrisville, RI 02830.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilors Stephen N. Rawson, David Houle and Raymond J. Trinqu

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

I. Minutes:

VOTED to accept the minutes of the October 12, 2023 meeting and dispense with the reading of said minutes.

Motion by Councilor David Houle. The motion carried unanimously.

II. Business

1. Consider and act on the schedule for the 2024 Ordinance Subcommittee meetings.

VOTED to approve.

Motion by Councilor Raymond J. Trinqu. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Consider and act on proposed amendments to the Revised General Ordinances of the Town of Burrillville, RI 2004 as amended, *Ch. 4 Animals* and *Sec. 30 -71 Zoning district uses* to add guidelines for the keeping, raising or housing of chickens; or take any other action thereon.

Discussion: Michael C. Wood, Town Manager, reviewed the comments, recommendations and changes since the original posting. A breakdown of these changes is on file with the record of this meeting.

Councilor Stephen N. Rawson discussed his recommendation that the table of quantities of chickens allowed should combine rows three and four to make it 1.00 – 2.99 acres allows 24 hens, and roosters allowed by special use permit. Otherwise he agreed with the Town Manager's recommendations in option three.

VOTED to accept the changes to Table I, as shown in option three, to combine lines three and four to read 1.00 – 2.99 acres allowed 24 hens and roosters with special use permit.

Motion by Councilor David Houle. The motion carried unanimously.

Note: Table I will be as follows:

Land Area	Number of Chickens and Roosters Allowed
Up to 0.49 acres	6 Hens, Roosters allowed with special use permit
0.50-0.99 acres	12 Hens, Roosters allowed with special use permit
1.00-2.99 acres	24 Hens, Roosters allowed with special use permit
3.00-3.99 acres	48 Hens, Roosters allowed
4.00-4.99 acres	60 Hens, Roosters allowed
5.00 acres or more	No Limit, Roosters allowed

APPROVED
MAR 14 2024
JRM

Discussion: There was discussion on whether there should be wording added that would require the written permission from a landlord be filed with the Town and whether that should be restricted to non-resident landlord owned properties. Also discussed was whether such filing should be reviewed/renewed on a yearly basis.

VOTED to ask the Town Solicitor to review Section 4-8.1(c) on wording regarding tenants and landlords.

Motion by Councilor Raymond J. Trinque. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion: Councilor Stephen N. Rawson invited members of the public to comment.

Chris Souza, Ben Ryan and Howard Cook spoke on the following subjects: the definition of F2 and F5, the number of hens allowed on smaller lots, restrictions on free ranging, roosters.

Linda Melkonian spoke on the amount of chickens allowed in residential neighborhoods, chickens and roosters can be a nuisance/noisy, having chickens in all of the yards may devalue property.

Discussion: Councilor Stephen N. Rawson discussed pushing back the effective date to four months from adoption. That would give people time to come into compliance with the proposed amendments.

VOTED to recommend adoption with all changes mentioned and change the effective date to May 10, 2024.

Motion by Councilor Raymond J. Trinque. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Other business None

IV. Adjournment

VOTED to adjourn at 6:35 p.m.

Motion by Councilor David Houle. The motion carried unanimously.



Vicki T. Martin, Town Clerk