

City of Pine Island
Planning and Zoning Commission
Agenda
Tuesday – January 10th 2012
7:00 PM
Second Floor – City Hall
250 South Main Street

- I. Roll Call
- II. Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. Minutes of December 13th, 2011
- IV. Chapter 12 – Comments following the Open House.
- V. Chicken Regulations-See attached.
- VI. Adjourn.

Proposal To Raise Chickens On Lots Zoned Residential

Summary

There is a growing movement in the United States that many have ventured into, pertaining to the raising of chickens in the backyard of a residence. It is my belief that the city of Pine Island should allow such a practice on residential property within the city. Being that it is difficult to create any type of ordinance from scratch I would propose adopting the one used by the city of Rochester, Minnesota as well as their application for a chicken permit.

Foreseen Issues

Smell & Noise:

I took the liberty of contacting the correctional officer in charge of animal control for the city of Rochester to get an idea as to the amount of complaints pertaining to chickens within city limits. After receiving a response that the only problem he faced was the smell of coops that had been left on abandoned premises. He was unable to recall ever responding to a animal control incident involving chickens that had an landowner present.

Disease:

Much of the disease created in chickens comes from not using best practices in raising them. Firstly the structure of the coop is to be designed in such a way that it can be considered rodent resistant. The chickens themselves, if they come from a reputable source, such as a hatchery like Murray McMurray, the chances of arriving with something like Salmonella is next to none.

Salmonella Concerns

http://www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/avg1104_pg_10

Quantity Of Birds:

Limits on the number of birds are essential. I propose only allowing for 3 birds to be present on a landowner's premises at any time. No roosters allowed.

Size of Coop:

See Rochester Ordinance

City Of Rochester Ordinance

<http://www.rochestermn.gov/departments/attorney/ordinances/pdf/ORD113A.pdf>

City Of Rochester Chicken Permit

<http://www.rochestermn.gov/departments/cityclerk/licenses/License%20application%20forms/CHICKEN.pdf>

Enforcement:

Since all coops would or could be registered with the city there is no reason a city official couldn't stop by to make sure things were going well with a given owner and their birds to ensure compliance and even best practices pertaining to coop design and potential problems. The sheriff would probably never have to be involved since there is no trend of complaints in Rochester it would be doubtful for there to be complaints in Pine Island.

NOTE: I've included correspondence with an animal control officer in Rochester, MN pertaining to issues with chicken owners.

Permit:

Rochester does \$20 dollars every two years, this seems reasonable.

Slaughtering:

If it is okay to hang a deer in ones garage it should be acceptable to slaughter 1 to 3 chickens, be it they are contained in order to bleed out without getting away.

Containment:

Rochester's ordinance proposes some sort of landscaping or fencing around the coop, this seems like a good idea.

Manure:

Contain it in a rodent/raccoon proof container until it can be disposed of either in the garbage or in the garden in the Fall or Spring.

Feed:

Store in a similar fashion to the manure.

Rodents:

Feeding just 3 chickens with feeding and watering stations scaled to this quantity of birds and with proper cleanup of feed there should not be a problem with rodents. Also following coop design suggestions would help in prevention.

Distance From Neighboring Residents:

The distance of 25 feet is used from the primary residential structure on neighboring properties by the city of Rochester. I believe this is acceptable as moving the coop around within the landowner's yard would be necessary to prevent killing off of the grass.

Permission From Neighbors:

No permission should be needed as chickens are much quieter than other permitted animals and will never be let out of their coop.

Predators:

The coop should be predator-proof; totally closed and heavy enough as not to be lifted. The landowner is responsible for their chickens safety in the same way they are responsible for a house pet.

Correspondence With Animal Control Officer In Rochester, MN Regarding Complaints Pertaining To Chickens:

A complaint would have a direct impact on enforcement

Response:

RE: Message From www.rochestermn.gov

Inbox

Miller, Rob rmiller@rochestermn.gov via gmail.com

2011-12-14

to Michael

No the complaints come in as a code violation that would include anything from abandoned property to zoning. Anecdotally I don't recall any complaints for chickens. We do not allow roosters so there is only clucking. As for smell I am not aware of any complaints (we get them for dogs regularly)

Sgt. Rob Miller

Original Message:

From: Michael Jurrens [mailto:michaeltheyeti@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 14, 2011 9:51 AM
To: Miller, Rob
Subject: Message From www.rochestermn.gov

Message from www.rochestermn.gov
Submitted Information

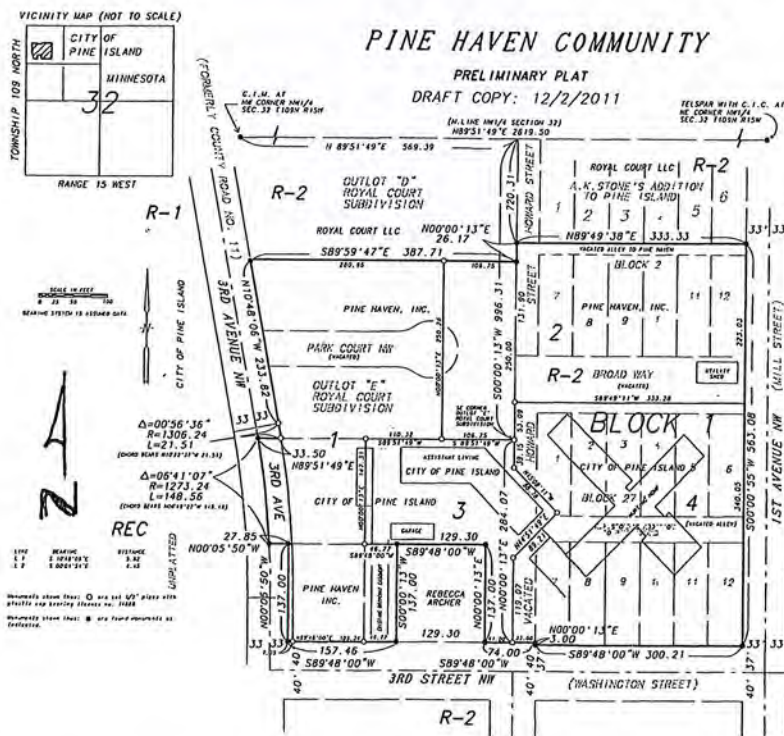
Name
Michael Jurrens
Email Address
michaeltheyeti@gmail.com
Address
Not Provided
Question/Comment

Captain Miller, I read on the Rochester, MN website that you oversee a few areas in your police department including animal control. I understand Rochester allows the raising of chickens on residential property with a permit and other rules being followed by the owner. I was wondering if you had an estimate of how many formal complaints you've received from people neighboring these individuals with regard to smell, noise or something else. I'm doing research to try to implement an ordinance like yours in my city. Thanks, Michael Jurrens

Public Hearing Notice
Preliminary Plat
“Pine Haven Community”
City of Pine Island
Minnesota
250 S. Main Street
Pine Island, MN 55963

The Pine Island Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday February 14th, 2012 at 7:00 PM, 2nd floor Pine Island City Hall - 250 S. Main Street Pine Island, Minnesota.

The purpose of the hearing is to consider public input and review the preliminary plat application from Pine Haven Nursing Home “Pine Haven Community” located north of 3rd Street NW between 2nd and 3rd Avenues - Pine Island, Olmsted County, Minnesota. (See site map below).



Any person wishing to comment on this preliminary plat application may do so at the time and location of the hearing, or in writing to:

Abraham Algadi,
 Zoning Administrator
 P. O. Box 1000
 Pine Island, MN 55963

TO: News-Record
 Publish on January 11th 2012
 Also POST AT CITY HALL