

**CITY OF EYOTA
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
MAY 15, 2013**

Present: Dana Allen-Tully, Scot Field, Barry Karsjens and Chad Ohl.
Secretary Marlis Knowlton

Absent: Councilmembers Ray Schuchard and Bryan Cornell

Guests: Mayor Tyrel Clark

Call to Order: Chair Dana Allen-Tully called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Approve Agenda: Motion was made by Ohl and seconded by Field to approve the agenda with the addition under Other Business of reviewing the Comprehensive Plan for a possible land purchase. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Approve Minutes: Motion was made by Field and seconded by Karsjens to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2013 meeting as presented. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Urban Chickens: The Commission discussed at length possible regulations for harboring urban chickens and reviewed Animal Ordinance #73 for any other changes. Motion was made by Ohl and seconded by Karsjens to allow two cats, two dogs and six chickens for a total of ten animals. Discussion: cats should be inside the house, chickens should be inside a coop and dogs should not be allowed to run at large, so two cats and two dogs seems restrictive. Ohl kept his motion but Karsjens changed and voted against the motion. Motion did not pass.

Motion was made by Field and seconded by Karsjens to allow the quantity of any combination of dogs and cats to a total of three animals and six chickens. (3 dogs, or 3 cats, or 1 dog and 2 cats, or 2 dogs and 1 cat). Discussion: six chickens are quite a few chickens. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ohl and seconded by Field to amend Article II, Section 12, Subdivision 6 to an annual fee of \$250 (from \$25) and the fee for signs and administration cost to \$50 (from \$1). Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Other changes requested:

Article I, the definition of restraint be amended that a properly confined dog or cat include restraint by voice control or e-collar.

Article III, Section 1, Subdivision 1, d., add: prior to harboring chickens.

Article III, Section 2, a. and b. both coops and runs shall be no larger than twenty four square feet; which is four square feet per chicken.

Article III, Section 5, b., change as soon as possible to within twenty four hours.

Article III, Section 5, c., change five days to twenty four hours.

Article III, Section 6, g., change proof to veterinarian certification.

The permit application should include a request for an e-mail address and provide information regarding manure management requirements. Applicants will be provided the hand out Backyard Chicken Basics from the University of Minnesota Extension.

A permit should be created to give to the approved applicant for proof.

Motion was made by Ohl and seconded by Field to approve the recommended changes to the ordinance as requested. Discussion: no special wording or regulations will be included regarding bees, bees are assumed to be agricultural. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

A public hearing to receive comments on the proposed ordinance changes will be at the next Planning Commission meeting, June 19, 7:00 p.m., at City Hall. Ohl will gather samples of coop and run plans to distribute to applicants.

Taprooms: Mayor Tyrel Clark explained Minnesota now allows micro-breweries and Eyota would have an opportunity to attract new businesses if the liquor ordinance was already in place to allow taprooms. The Commission suggested and requested Clark provide sample wording to amend the current liquor ordinance.

Other Business:

Comprehensive Plan Review for Possible Land Purchase: The Commission reviewed the Comprehensive Plan regarding the Councils proposed purchase of land for storm water management. Numerous items in the Plan were found to prove the purchase would be in compliance with the City's plans. Motion was made by Ohl and seconded by Karsjens to recommend the purchase of the Dorothy Jones land is compliant with the Comprehensive Plan per the items noted by Knowlton. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried.

Knowlton will forward that information to the City Council.

Adjourn: Motion was made by Field and seconded by Karsjens to adjourn. Ayes 4, Nays 0. Motion carried. Meeting was declared adjourned at 8:52 p.m.


Marlis Knowlton
Clerk/Treasurer