

Edwards,Michelle

From: Ragle, John <john@ragle.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2019 9:43 PM
To: DeBaun,Curtis; Azar, George; Morris,Don; Auler,Amy; Elliott,Earl; Nasser,Karrum;
Nation,Todd; Garrison,Neil; Crossen,Martha
Cc: Edwards,Michelle; Tharp,Laurie; SLMCPA via Board
Subject: *Ext!* Proposed City Ordinance modifications
Attachments: THHS Ltr to THCC-Chickens 031419.pdf

****External Email - Think Before You Click****

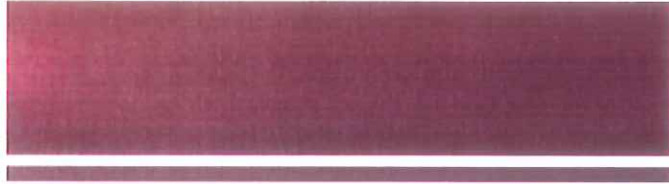
- Helpdesk

Attached is a Memorandum addressed to all members of the Terre Haute City Council from the Terre Haute Humane Society Board of Directors. The memorandum was discussed and unanimously approved by the THHS Board during our monthly Board meeting, March 19, 2019.

FILED

MAR 19 2019

CITY CLERK



TERRE HAUTE HUMANE SOCIETY

1811 South Fruitridge Avenue * Terre Haute, Indiana 47803 8 (812) 232-0293

To: All TH City Council Members

From: Terre Haute Humane Society (THHS)

Subject: Bee-Keeping & Chicken Ordinance updates

Date: March 19, 2019

CC: Terre Haute Code Enforcement-Animal Control

Last Thursday evening, March 14th, the Vice Chairman of our Board of Directors, John Ragle, attended your committee's public forum regarding the keeping of bees and chickens on residentially zoned property within the City's limits. While THHS is not taking any official position on these issues, we would like to point out certain effects that need to be considered, relative to chickens, or any other farm-type livestock that might be situated on residentially zoned property. It was very apparent during the committee meeting that all those individuals who spoke out in support of keeping both bees and chickens, were obviously responsible, conscientious and educated about both chickens and bees. Unfortunately, our City's Animal Control officers are saddled with the job of regularly dealing with those irresponsible individuals, who often know nothing about proper animal care and welfare, and who ultimately abandon or significantly mistreat and abuse animals.

It is our hope that the Council members will seriously consider the additional burden and impact that will be placed upon our City's Animal Control staff, should the current restriction of keeping chickens be lifted. The facilities in our new animal shelter are animal-specific, and have no capacity to keep chickens or any farm-type animals, nor is our staff properly trained to care for them. As a point in fact, the THHS contract with the City specifically prohibits acceptance of any farm-type livestock.

Although we are not taking a formal position on these issues, the THHS is dedicated to expanding and advocating proper animal welfare in our community. Should the Council elect to lift the current restrictions for keeping chickens, we recommend they consider the following:

1. Restrict the number of hens (including chicks), based on lot size or other criteria.



2. Prohibit ANY roosters.
3. Impose reasonable and humane confinement requirements.
4. Impose odor, health and animal welfare guidelines for potential enforcement, and/or animal removal.
5. Allow significant input on final restrictions from Animal Control staff.
6. Provide Animal Control staff with adequate training and funding to handle the increased burden.
7. Provide Animal Control with a reasonable and humane method for dispensing or disposing of chickens that are taken or surrendered.

Thank you for considering our comments on these matters.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ray Buechler". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Ray Buechler, THHS Chairman of the Board

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Ragle". The signature is fluid and cursive.

John Ragle, THHS Vice Chairman of the Board