

COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Tuesday, June 23, 2015, 4:30 p.m.
Casper City Hall
Council Meeting Room

AGENDA

1. Community Promotions
2. Chickens
3. Event Sponsorships
4. Library Options
5. Future Agenda Review
6. Council Around the Table
7. Executive Session – Personnel Issue

June 22, 2015

MEMO TO: John C. Patterson, City Manager
FROM: Tanya Johnson, Special Projects Analyst 
SUBJECT: Community Promotions Round One

Recommendation:

That Council review the preliminary results of this first round of Community Promotions voting to see if it accurately reflects the will of the Council.

Summary:

Council has received twenty-three applications for Community Promotions FY 2016.

Council set aside \$115,000 in the current fiscal year for Community Promotions.

The process calls for two rounds of voting. In the first round, Council members were asked to vote "yes" or "no" for each of the guideline questions. Applications that fail to meet a majority of the guidelines as voted by the majority of the Council are eliminated from further consideration. The initial results of that first round indicate that 19 of these applications should be promoted to the second round. The compilation of the first round of voting is included with this memo.

The process now calls for Council to review these results at a Work Session. Individual Council members may change their votes at this time.

Applications that are supported by a majority of the Council at the end of the work session will be promoted to the second round. At that time, Council members will be asked to vote on *how much* funding each application should receive and whether facility or in-kind services should be granted.

#	Organization Name	Event Name	Kenyne Schlager	Ray Pacheco	Bob Hopkins	Charlie Powell	Daniel Sandoval	Shawn Johnson	Steve Cathey	Craig Hedquist	Robin Mundell	Number of Votes			Result
												Yes	No	Abstain	
			Yes, No, or Abstain												
1	12-24 Club, Inc.; Natrona County Substance Abuse Treatment Providers; and Wyo Meth Project	Recovery Rocks	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	6	0		Pass
2	Boys & Girls clubs of Central Wyoming	Summer Programming	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	6	0		Pass
3	Casper Amateur Hockey Club, Inc.	Season Events 7/1/15-6/30/16	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	6	0		Pass
4	Casper Civic Chorale	2015-2016 Concert Seasons	No		No	No		Yes	No		Yes	2	4		Fail
5	Casper College Foundation/Casper College Alumni Association	T-bird Trek Half Marathon - 5k - 2k	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	6	0		Pass
6	Casper Community Greenhouse Project in Collabroation with the DCBA	"Harvest" - Casper's Local Food Festival	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	6	0		Pass
7	Casper Soccer Club	Oil City Cup	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	6	0		Pass
8	Casper Soccer Club	Spring Jamboree	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	6	0		Pass
9	Casper Soccer Club	Wyoming Cup	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	6	0		Pass
10	Central Wyoming Fair & Rodeo Association	Central Wyoming Fair & Rodeo (to include downtown banner advertising)	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	6	0		Pass
11	Central Wyoming Fair & Rodeo Association	Downtown Sidewalk Chalk Art Festival	No		Yes	Yes		No	No		Yes	3	3		Fail
12	Central Wyoming Skating Assoc.	Spring Ice Show	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	6	0		Pass
13	Community Recreation Foundation	2015 Craft Fair	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	6	0		Pass
14	Downtown Casper Business Association	Christmas Parade	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	6	0		Pass
15	Eddie McPherson Memorial Hockey Foundation	Eddie McPherson Memorial Tournament	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	6	0		Pass

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												Yes, No, or Abstain	Yes, No, or Abstain	Yes, No, or Abstain	
16	Nicolaysen Art Museum	NIC Fest 2016	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	6	0		Pass
17	Nicolaysen Art Museum	Wednesday Night Live 2016	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	6	0		Pass
18	Platter River Trails Trust	Respect Our River	No		Yes	Yes		Yes	No		Yes	4	2		Pass
19	Serve Wyoming	Natrona County Volunteer Guides, Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 Editions	No		Yes	No		Yes	No		No	2	4		Fail
20	Wyoming Medical Center - Safe Kids of Central Wyoming	Safe Kids Day; Safe Swim Night; and Kohl's Heads Up	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	6	0		Pass
21	Wyoming Medical Center Foundation	Holiday Square & Reindeer Run	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		Yes	6	0		Pass
22	Wyoming Natural Gas Fair Association	Wyoming Oil & Gas Fair	No		Yes	Yes		Yes	No		Yes	4	2		Pass
23	Wyoming Symphony Orchestra	2015-2016 Concert Series	No		Yes	Yes		Yes	No		No	3	3		Fail

June 10, 2015

MEMO TO: John Patterson, City Manager

FROM: Liz Becher, Community Development Director 
Craig Collins, AICP, City Planner
Tory Cutrell, Metro Manager

SUBJECT: Proposed ordinance amendment to allow chickens

Recommendation:

No recommendation is being proposed at this time. This memorandum is for informational purposes only.

Summary:

The City has been approached by a group of citizens that have requested changes to the Municipal Code to allow the keeping of pet chickens. Under Section 6.04.260 of the Municipal Code, chickens are allowed by right in the Urban Agriculture (AG) zoning district, and are prohibited in all other districts.

Backyard chickens are increasingly popular nationwide for many reasons, including a growing interest in issues such as food security, localism, sustainability, rising food prices, and the humane treatment of animals. Proponents of allowing chickens cite that chickens make low-impact and interesting pets, produce eggs that taste better and are healthier than factory produced eggs, eat bugs and pests, and the manure can be composted into nitrogen-rich fertilizer for the lawn and garden. Many towns and cities across the country allow the keeping of chickens; however, there are management issues that are typically addressed through the establishment of reasonable regulations.

Typical concerns regarding the keeping of chickens include noise, odors, predators, escapees, and diseases such as avian flu and salmonella. Based on staff's research, it appears that most of these issues can be addressed through reasonable regulations on the numbers allowed, locations of coops, banning of roosters, restrictions on butchering, and containment/fencing requirements. As is the case with any of the types of currently-permitted pets within the City, issues with sanitation or other management issues will occasionally occur; however, the experiences of other municipalities seem to indicate that those issues are usually relatively rare and isolated, and typically don't cause a significant impact on Animal Control resources.



Urban Agriculture

Chickens

Chickens

The main benefit to backyard chickens stems from the human-animal bond, as well as the production of a food item; eggs. However, many individuals have concerns related to public health and community well-being.



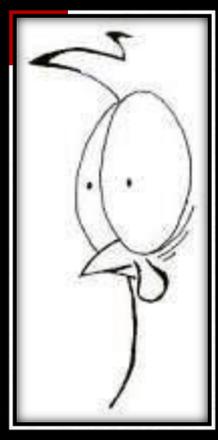
*Each hen can be expected to lay 1 egg almost every day
(it takes an egg 26 hours to fully form)*

An example of a backyard coop

Why would people want chickens?

- Food security/sustainability and independence
- Appealing as pets
- Controlling insects
- Better nutrition
- Concern for the humane treatment of animals
- Knowing where food comes from
- Teaching their children responsibility





- **Noise**
 - Yes, they can cackle and bawk. Proponents of chickens maintain they are much less noisy than a barking dog. Many say it depends on the breed, and usually only happens for a short amount of time when laying.
 - Prohibiting roosters is usually advised, and is typical of most urban chicken regulations.
- **Smell**
 - Coop litter material needs replaced at least once per month, more or less, depending on the number of hens being housed and the coop size.
 - 5 chickens create less fecal matter than 1 medium sized dog, and chicken droppings easily break down and make excellent fertilizer.
 - Proper setbacks from property lines can help dissipate the odors. More distance to neighbors equates to less smell.
 - Limiting the number of hens to a reasonable number will also prevent excessive odor issues.
- **Public health concerns**
 - If avian influenza eventually evolves to infect humans, some fear that backyard chickens could be vectors of the disease. It's common for all chickens to carry Salmonella; a germ that naturally lives in the intestines of poultry. The same precaution should be taken to ensure chicken and eggs are fully cooked, regardless if it originated from a commercial company or private individual.
 - Many avian diseases are a result of the living conditions at factory farms. Backyard chickens are much less likely to transmit diseases because of increased separation and better living conditions.
- **Predators**
 - If stray dogs can get to the chickens, they can kill aimlessly or even accidentally. Given the opportunity, birds of prey, fox, coyotes, bears and raccoons have been known to feed on chickens. These same predators might eat cats, rabbits and even small dogs; so chickens do not attract predators to any greater extent than these other animals.
 - If housed properly, in an enclosure, chickens will not present an easy meal, and will not attract predators.

Potential concerns

- Eggs – pastured chickens have healthier eggs, 33% less cholesterol and 25% less saturated fat than factory chicken eggs.
- Family involvement – children learn patience, responsibility and where food comes from.
- Back to our roots.
- Chickens eat insects and provide fertilizer for gardens.
- Food security and independence; reduce reliance on limited food sources.
- Many claim that they make good pets, are docile, and entertaining to watch. Unlike dogs, chicken bites are rare.
- Raising backyard chickens is usually considered more humane than factory farms.

Benefits to chickens



- Cities report little impact on calls for service where chickens are permitted. Most calls reported relate to roosters or loose chickens, even then, most cities report only a handful of calls and no significant drain on resources.

Impact from allowing chickens in urban environments



- What species of poultry might be allowed?
 - Most urban areas only allow chickens
- What is the maximum number of adult birds that a backyard could have?
 - Most ordinances allow between 5-6
- Are roosters allowed?
 - Most urban areas do not allow roosters because of the noise
- Will a permit or fee be required?
 - Several cities require flock owners to obtain a permit in order to keep chickens
- Will there be coop restrictions?
 - These could include requirements that a coop be set back from neighboring properties; setback regulations are very common
- Will the chickens have to be tagged for identification?
 - This is rare, and in some places strongly opposed

Points to consider





Questions?

*Presented by:
Tory Cutrell, Manager
Metro Animal Services
6/23/15*
