

Chair Saeger called the Animal Control Appeal Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on July 25, 2018 in the Troy City Hall Lower Level Conference Room.

1. ROLL CALL

Present:

Patrick Carolan
Patrick Floch
Al Petruilis
Jayne Saeger
Gretchen Waters

Also Present:

Paul Evans, Zoning & Compliance Specialist
Lori Grigg-Bluhm, City Attorney
Michael Szuminski, Troy Police Department

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Carolan
SECOND by Waters

RESOLVED, to approve the agenda as submitted.

Yes: All

MOTION PASSED

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Carolan
SECOND by Waters

RESOLVED, to approve the May 23, 2018 meeting minutes.

Yes: All

MOTION PASSED

4. HEARING OF CASES

- A. 1353 MADISON, MACY JACKSON, WAIVER REQUEST – In order to keep 3 chickens, primarily indoors, a waiver from the requirement that the property be at least .75 of an acre in size. The property is approximately .26 acres in size.

Chair Saeger introduced the case and Mr. Evans provided an overview presentation. Mr. Evans advised the agenda should reflect that the first name of the applicant is Tracy.

Chair Saeger asked the applicant to address the Board.

Tracy Jackson enumerated upon her application clarifying that the chickens were about half the size of a typical chicken, indicated they will be caged and bedding of straw or similar would be regularly changed. In response to Board member questions she advised/clarified:

Purpose was for pets, not eggs

Location of birds in the home

Chickens would in outside in summer, when a family member is also in yard; not likely to be out in winter

Chickens will be enclosed in cages similar to what shown in application

Chickens have not yet been obtained

Chair Saeger opened public comment.

In response to public comment, Ms. Jackson confirmed the chickens were not loud like roosters, and that the breed does not tend to leave their home environment. Mr. Evans indicated the City received two written comments, both in favor.

Chair Saeger closed public comment.

Board members discussed concerns about of lot size, having the chickens in the house, indoor sanitation, amount of time chickens may be outside and regulating such, setting precedence if granted, and the species pet-like characteristics.

MOTION by Carolan

SECOND by Floch

RESOLVED, to deny the request based on lot size being inadequate at .26 acres in size.

Yes: Saeger, Carolan, Floch, Petrulis

No: Waters

MOTION PASSED

B. 1896 BEECH LANE, PAUL DHRUVAN, WAIVER REQUEST – In order to keep 2 honeybee hives, a waiver from the requirement that the property be at least .75 of an acre in size. The property is approximately .3 acres in size.

Chair Saeger introduced the case and Mr. Evans provided an overview presentation. Mr. Evans indicated the City became aware of the hives due to a complaint.

Chair Saeger asked the applicant to address the Board. Mrs. Dhruvan and her son Liam were present.

In response to Board member questions, the Dhruvan’s advised/clarified:

The hives shown in the application are currently present, the hives are constructed of wood with removable top and bottom, how the hives are used to produce honey and more bees, that there would be no more than 2 hives, and that the honey would be for personal, not commercial use.

Chair Saeger opened public comment. A nearby resident expressed support. Mr. Evans indicated the City received three written comments, one in favor, one supporting existing with no increase in bees, one against.

Chair Saeger closed public comment.

In response to a Board member question, the applicant confirmed the hives are located in the northeast corner of the property, furthest away possible from residences. Board members agreed this waiver request was unusual, that parcel size does not have the same impact as with other animals, possibility of placing time limit on a potential grant, and agreed that honeybees are beneficial.

MOTION by Petruilis
SECOND by Carolan

RESOLVED, to grant the request for a two year period and that the hives remain in the northeast corner of the property.

YES: All

MOTION PASSED

- 5. OTHER BUSINESS – None
- 6. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Saeger adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



 Jayne Saeger, Chair



 Paul Evans, Zoning & Compliance Specialist

