



City of CHARLOTTE

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Lewis and City Council Members

FROM: Gregg Guetschow, City Manager

SUBJECT: Changes to proposed ordinance regarding chickens

DATE: April 22, 2016

The April 11 Council meeting included discussion regarding the extension of the sunset date for the ordinance regulating the keeping of chickens on residential lots. Two suggestions were made regarding possible modifications to other provisions of the ordinance.

One change would extend the duration of the permit from one to two years. This is easily accomplished by modifying the language of section 10-4(D)5 to refer to the longer permit duration.

The second suggested change would modify the process through which consent of the owners of abutting property owners is obtained. Council member Bahmer has proposed eliminating the requirement that permit applicants obtain consent from those neighbors in favor of the offering an opportunity for neighbors to object.

I would suggest the following language as a possible substitute for section 10-4(D)(2):

The City Clerk shall not issue a permit if any abutting property owner or occupant, after written notification by the City, objects in writing to the issuance of the permit within ten days of the date of the notification; provided, however, the City Clerk shall issue the permit when all objections are withdrawn and all other conditions of applicable ordinances, rules and regulations are met.

This latter change, if adopted, would require modifications to the Council policy on this topic so as to provide additional detail regarding the process of objecting and withdrawing objections.