

Livestock Ordinance – Summary of Public Outreach

Updated: June 3, 2024

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Background: The public outreach for the proposed Animal Ordinance included the following.

- May 15, 2024 – Draft ordinance published and posted on Town Website.
- May 21, 2024 – Public Open House (Workshop) held to gather comments.
- May 21 to May 30, 2024 – Distribute Survey electronically and in hard copy and collect results. Links posted on Town website and QR codes were distributed.
- On-going – Collect information via e-mail and hard copy.

Summary: Comments received to date were provided in “raw format” to the Animal Workgroup via electronic means. Most of the comments received were via the survey or in-person at the Open House. The survey comments are included as Attachment A and the Open House comments are included as Attachment B. Attachment B is provided in a Matrix (table).

The comments received have been divided into the following categories.

Point Count

- From the Survey:
 - Approximately 70% of the people surveyed would like the point count to be increased or eliminated.
 - Approximately 30% of those surveyed would like the point count to remain the same or be reduced.
- Other comments received:
 - Point count should be doubled to 48 points per acre.
 - Point count should be eliminated.
 - Point count should remain the same.

Lot Size: A few comments were received that one-half acre should not be treated the same as one acre.

Species: No significant comments were received.

Swine

- Pig breeding should not be allowed.
- Don't change the current allowance for pigs.
- Swine should be less than 24 points.
- Need to clarify per parcel vs. lot size.

Guest Animals/Non-Resident Animals

- No permits should be required.
- No registry should be required.
- Non-resident Animals should be limited to a maximum number of days.
- Guest Animals should be limited to no more than 14 days.
- Several commented that the hours of 6am to 10pm should be restricted.

Youth Permits (Livestock/Equestrian): Very few comments were received. Here are a few individual comments from the matrix.

- Permits are great.
- No limits on youth animals.
- Glad Equestrian permits have been added.

Nuisance/Enforcement

- Priority of concerns listed in Survey:
 - No concerns – 58%
 - Manure – 32%
 - Flies, vermin, etc. – 28%
 - Animal Health – 27%
 - Odor – 26%
 - Runoff – 25%
 - Proximity of Pens – 21%
 - Noise – 14%
 - Light – 12%
- Concern about lack of enforcement.
- Focus should be on nuisances (not animal count).
- Nuisance issues are difficult to enforce.
- Something should be done about people that file multiple complaints that are unfounded.
- Concern about difficulty of enforcement of 6am to 10pm timeframe.
- Town will need another code enforcement officer to enforce this ordinance.

Manure

- Manure should not be stored/piled over well locations.
- Manure management should be the main focus of this ordinance.
- Larger manure piles should be allowed for larger parcels.
- Smaller properties should have smaller setbacks for manure piles.
- More provisions are needed that allow composting of manure.

Attachments:

- A. Survey Summary
- B. Comment Matrix
- C. E-mail and written comments