Resolution 1-A-19

A RESOLUTION REFERRING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ZONING ORDINANCE SECTION 2103 AND ADDING SECTION 5-118 TO PERMIT THE KEEPING OF CHICKENS IN CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL AREAS

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan supports partnership with the community to promote sustainable practices throughout Blacksburg;

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan promotes the value of local food production and the positive impact of having access to healthy foods;

WHEREAS, the Town endorses the "eat local" and "buy local" movements;

WHEREAS, the Town currently limits the keeping of chickens to the rural area on parcels of 2 acres or greater, which does not support national trend of urban chicken keeping;

WHEREAS, the Town of Blacksburg supports an increased awareness of the environmental impacts of large scale commercial farming techniques;

WHEREAS, in recognition of the above, the Town Council wants to consider ordinance changes that would permit citizens to keep chickens within the corporate limits of the Town in certain single family residential areas; and

WHEREAS, the public necessity, convenience, general welfare and good zoning practice so require.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Town of Blacksburg:

1. That the Planning Commission is hereby requested to review the Zoning Ordinance and the Town Code to consider potential changes that would permit keeping chickens in certain residential neighborhoods.

2. That the following specific changes to the Zoning Ordinance are proposed:

   a. Amendments to Zoning Ordinance § 2103 to modify the definition of the term "Agriculture"; and,

   b. A new provision in the Town Code (§ 5-118) that would establish criteria for keeping chickens in certain residential districts.

3. That the Planning Commission is further requested to propose other amendments to related sections of the Zoning Ordinance or The Town Code as necessary for consistency with the amendments described in the preceding paragraphs.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Town Clerk

Date of Adoption: January 8, 2019