


TOWN OF BLACKSBURG
CONSENT AGENDA MEMO

DATE: February 27, 2019
TO: Planning Commission
FROM: Paul Patterson, Zoning Administrator 
TITLE: Zoning Ordinance Amendment #41 - An ordinance to allow for the keeping of Urban Chickens in certain residential areas and as a pilot program in the Bennett-Hill/Progress Street Neighborhood.

- **Background:** Zoning Ordinance Amendment – An ordinance regarding changes to the Town Municipal Code to permit the keeping of Urban Chickens in residential areas.

On January 8, 2019, the Town Council adopted Resolution 1-A-19 referring to the Planning Commission a proposed amendment to Zoning Ordinance Section 2103 and adding Section 5-118 to the Town Code to permit the keeping of chickens in certain residential areas.

On January 28, 2019, the Zoning Ordinance Review Committee met on ZOA #41/Ordinance 1888.

- **Considerations:**

At the February 19, 2019 Planning Commission work session, the Planning Commission reviewed the February 15th staff report and discussed ZOA#41/ Ordinance 1888 on the Keeping of Urban Chickens. Modifications to the draft Ordinance 1888 as identified in the staff report and discussed at the work session were:

- ✓ Size of chicken coops to be a minimum of 4 square feet per hen.
- ✓ Dogs and cats are not to be considered to be dangerous or vicious animals based solely on the damage to or killing of chicken(s).
- ✓ Application registration fee for Urban Chickens to be \$30. No additional fee charged for the annual re-registration.
- ✓ Single-family dwelling properties zoned R-5 Transitional Residential within the Bennett-Hill/Progress Street Neighborhood will be part of a one-year pilot program. R-4 Low Density Residential zoned properties will already be included with Ordinance 1888.

- **Action:** Hold public hearing and make a recommendation to Town Council on Ordinance 1888 -Keeping of chickens in certain residential areas.
- **Attachments:** Ordinance 1888, draft as of February 25, 2019
Pilot Program Area for Urban Chickens – Bennett-Hill Progress Street