

**THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION OF BENSON, ARIZONA
HELD JUNE 8, 2023 AT 5:30 P.M.
AT THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
599 S DRAGON STREET, BENSON, ARIZONA**

CALL TO ORDER:

Robert Kirschmann, Liaison for the Planning and Zoning Commission, called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Mr. Kirschmann asked if any of the members would like to volunteer to be the chairman of the board. Vern Garrison volunteered to chair the board. Lonnie Posegate made a motion to accept Vern Garrison as chairman and Rhonda Boone 2nd the motion. An all-in favor vote was taken to accept Vern Garrison as the chairman with a 5-0 vote in approval.

Robert then asked for volunteers for a vice chairman of the board. Rhonda Boone volunteered to be vice chairman. Lonnie Posegate made a motion to vote Rhonda Boone in as Vice Chairman and Vicky Konrad 2nd the motion. An all-in favor vote was taken to accept Rhonda Boone as the vice chairman with a 5-0 vote in approval.

ROLL CALL:

Robert Kirschmann called the roll of the commissioners. Lonnie Posegate, Vicky Konrad, Rhonda Boone, and Bill Mehrer were present in person and Vern Garrison was present via zoom meeting. Robert Kirschmann stated that a quorum was present.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Call to public
No public present.

2. Discussion and possible action on the Amendment for Livestock

Robert Kirschmann updated the commission on the reason for this meeting and presented a Power Point to them. Robert updated the commission on the exact changes that would be made. Robert concluded his presentation and asked for any questions the commission might have.

Rhonda Boone commented that she might want to add pigeons back into the regulations.

Vern Garrison asked who will be responsible for making sure they are caged and aren't just mixing with wild pigeons.

Bill Mehrer stated that he was concerned about large livestock, but he then saw that they needed 40 acres and was happy with the 40 acres policy.

Rhonda Boone stated that pet pigeons should be allowed in the regulations if they are caged, and she doesn't believe that it would upset the neighbors. She does not think there is a big difference between pigeons and chickens.

Vicky Konrad stated that 4-H kids do show pigeons. Vicky states that pigeons are different than other unprohibited fowl.

Rhonda Boone mentioned that maybe adding no racing pigeons instead of just pigeons would be a fix to the regulations.

Lonnie Posegate asked where peacocks were grouped in this amendment.

Robert Kirschmann pointed out that peacocks are included in the peafowl section.

Robert Kirschmann asked the commissioners if they should amend the amendment to allow show pigeons but not racing pigeons?

Lonnie Posegate stated that he does not see a problem with allowing pigeons if they are tied to the same amount and space requirements as chickens are. Mr. Posegate stated he was in support of a change to allow pigeons.

Robert Kirschmann asked for any further comments regarding pigeons. No further comments were given; therefore, Robert moved on to any new comments.

Robert Kirschmann stated that a citizen had recommended that the wording of "exotic reptiles" be changed on page 3 #12 of the draft ordinance. Robert asked the commissioners for their thoughts on this suggestion. Rhonda Boone suggested "inherently dangerous animals" be added instead of "exotic animals."

Robert Kirschmann asked if there were any other changes or suggestions. There were no further comments.

Rhonda Boone made a motion to add the 2 proposed changes to the amendment to allow pigeons and change the wording to "no inherently dangerous animals" and to recommend the amendment to city council. Vicky Konrad 2nd the motion. An all-in-favor vote was taken with a quorum vote of 4-1 in favor of sending the updated amendment to city council. Lonnie Posegate was not in favor of the changes.

ADJOURNMENT:

Robert Kirschmann adjourned the meeting at 5:55 P.M.