

From: joanne fenbow
Sent: Tuesday, October 6, 2020 2:21 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Urban hens pilot program

Dear counsellors,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank counsellor Nann for listening to our concerns regarding the urban hens in Hamilton. I feel the only way you will understand the difference between Mega chicken farms and backyard chickens is if you visit both of them. I compare it to puppy mills and certified dog breeders. I would not buy from a puppy mill but I am forced to buy from a chicken Mill.

There is so much misinformation about backyard chickens and I will try to address as many as I can.

1) noise. - Dogs barking 90 decibels

- Human conversation 60 to 70 decibels

- chickens 60 to 70 decibels
Unlike dogs they only make
Noise when laying an egg or
If they are being attacked

2) rats and mice - my neighbor's has about 10 bird feeders that attract birds, raccoons, Chipmunks, squirrels, rats, mice and possums! Yet she is still allowed to have bird feeders.

Chicken coops should be wrapped in fabric mesh so mice and rats can't get in and it protects the chickens it also protects the food and any food is put in a metal can as a safeguard.

3) smell. - chicken coops should have a poop hammock mounted under the roosting bar. Chickens do most of their pooping at night so you could clean the poop hammock daily should you need to.

My neighbour has five barking dogs on my left, two barking dogs on my right, 1 barking dog across the street and five or six barking dogs backing onto my property yet you are worried about the noise a few chickens would make that seems like a double standard to me.

I feel it is essential to have a Humane and safe food source. There is a lot of chicken groups that help all the newbies out if they have any issues so there is a whole support system in place. I would like to think a lot of those people are voters, I know I am and will vote accordingly next time around after all the people that we put in office are there to represent us not vote your own personal beliefs. Brenda Johnson told me before this matter was voted on that it will never pass, at one point I was told the planning committee was going to vote on it and then I pointed out that I know the vote was stacked. My last count on votes and I have been keeping track is as follows.

7 yes

5 no

3 unconfirmed

I would ask all of you to reconsider a vote where all the councillors have to vote on a chicken pilot program, if Toronto can have chickens I can't understand why Hamilton Can't there is much larger properties here! Thank you for your time and please vote for backyard chickens because this issue is not going to go away! If it doesn't pass I will keep bringing this issue forward. I look forward to hearing from all of you thank you for your time.