Name: Michelle K.O'Toole
Address: 3661 Serendipity Lane
Rapid City,SD 57702
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: General Public Comment
Agenda Item: Hens
Comment:
PLEASE.....NO CHICKENS IN CITY LIMITS!
ICK!
Name: Jessie Fenner
Address: 1901 Audubon Circle
Rapid City, SD 57702
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: General Public Comment
Agenda Item:
Comment:
It is our obligation and duty to take every action possible to protect Pactola/ Jenny Gulch and the Rapid City Watershed from the detrimental effects of gold mining and exploration. The watershed and our drinking water could be heavily contaminated by any mining efforts. We also need to consider the negative impacts that mining exploration would have on, the citizens and tourists that go to Pactola/ Jenny Gulch, Rapid Creek, and all of the recreation areas downstream. The mining/ exploration process could be detrimental to the wildlife, hunting, fishing, boating, swimming, hiking, kayaking and the ecosystems that thrive around these water sources. Mining has never improved the environment or quality of life, it has only ever been destructive, harmful, and an eyesore. Protect the Black Hills and our water!
Name: James Preston
Address: 2419 Buena Vista Dr Rapid City, South Dakota
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: General Public Comment
Agenda Item: Urban Hens
Comment:
This issue is up for vote today and I want to offer my support for the proliferation and easement of unnecessary restrictions on urban hens. We have seen this issue pass legal and finance, and have heard testimony from the Humane Society of the Black Hill's executive director, but his concerns are nominal in light of the benefit of food independence affords us here in South Dakota- an ag state. We should be able to raise, cultivate, harvest our own birds in town and it is up to the individual to safely and responsibly do so. Not everyone is going to rush out and buy a coop, but for those who already operate them, and those who are yet to know the benefits, we are on a the right track for great change. Thank you.
Name: Jeanell Hoyle
Address: 1310 Milwaukee st
Rapid city SD 57701
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: General Public Comment
Agenda Item: Hens
Comment:
I think this would be a fabulous idea. This would help food supplies, gardens and give people more of a sense of community.
Name: patricia braun
Address: 3661 serendipity lane
rapid city, sd 57702
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: NO hens
Comment:
please, please, please...NO hens/coops. There are enough issues needing to be addressed - chickens are not one of them! Fine and close down those who have illegally put up coops, do not build an ordinance to accommodate them! Our city animal control cannot manage the workload they have, do not add more to the stretched budget. Bless them for speaking against the hen coop ordinance!
Name: patricia braun
Address: 3661 serendipity lane
rapid city,sd 57702
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: protect watershed
Comment:
please, please protect the watershed by any means possible.
Name: Patricia Scarborough
Address: 4005 Falling Rock Rd.
Rapid City, SD 57702
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: General Public Comment
Agenda Item: Urban hens ordinance
Comment:
As a RC resident, I fully support the urban hen ordinance. When I first moved to SD, I was struck by how prominently folks here value personal freedoms. I believe that increasing personal freedom to live how we so choose with slightly less government interference is perhaps the number one reason to vote FOR the ordinance allowing hens. The ordinance is well written to account for most of the arguments people have had against it. Just as with typical pets, hen owners must care for the animals, and prevent them from being a nuisance to their neighbors. I was surprised to hear concerns from the Human Society because even as a hen supporter, I can’t imagine why anything besides butchering would be the fate of hens that are a nuisance or being poorly cared for. Please take this opportunity to increase personal freedom for your constituents and feel assured that the ordinance is appropriately restrictive to account for concerns. Thank you!
Name: Luke Anderson
Address: 2008 Central Blvd
Rapid City, SD 57702
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: Chickens
Comment:
I support the approval of chickens in rapid city. Please vote yes on this amendment and help our city become more sustainable the health conscious future for our kids.
Name: Ashlea Bruno
Address: 4119 Poppy Trail RC, SD 57702
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: General Public Commnet
Agenda Item:
Comment:

I would love to have an amendment to having urban hens for fresh eggs. My sister in law in PHX has a great backyard hen set up to provide food for her family. I would love to have the same, but am currently unable to do so. Thanks for considering this change!
Name: Ilisja Duffy
Address: 1430 Clark St
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: Hen Ordinance
Comment:

It would be so amazing to have this ordinance pass. My kids have been asking for years to have chickens! We have often planned how to care for them in the most responsible way. We care about all animals and take raising chickens very seriously.
Comment: I am fully in favor of urban hens, and not allowing them negatively impacts the economy of Rapid City. Many young to middle aged professional families are enthusiasts in urban homesteading and choose to live in places where things such as poultry keeping, beekeeping, rabbit keeping, front yard food gardening, community gardens, small form wind and solar power generation and rain water collection are considered a benefit to the community. Hens are quiet and easy to care for, and provide people with an alternative to factory farmed eggs. Banning citizens from owning chickens is an example of government over regulation that strips citizens of their freedom to live their best and most productive lives.
Name: Misti Speidel
Address: 1729 Lodge St. Rapid City SD
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: Hen Ordinance
Comment:
I feel the city council should allow the hen ordinance
Name: Joel Hagan
Address: 2920 Morningview Dr
Rapid City, SD
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: Urban Hens
Comment:
I would urge the city council to allow hens in city limits. This is good for families and the community as a whole.
Name: Amy Hendricks
Address: 2526 Cruz Dr Rapid City SD 57702
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: General Public Comment
Agenda Item: Chicken ordinance
Comment:
I am in total support of having chickens in the city of rapid city
Dear Greg—

I live in Ward 3 and would like to voice my support for Urban Hens. I like the idea of a sustainable food source. I’ve owned chickens in the past (when I lived in the country in Illinois). I believe 2-4 hens in town would be a good fit in town. Thank you for hearing me out.

Lisa Bennett
Name: cindy Rains
Address: 1719 Sioux Ave
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: General Public Comment
Agenda Item:
Comment:

Lets move forward and not stay stuck! Many cities have adopted ordinances to have hens, why not here, unless we want to stay in our backward state as we are already known thru-out the country. Are we not smart enough to write regulations for having hens or what? Come on Bill Evans lets move forward not backward!
Name: Kim Morsching
Address: 3618 Fraley Ct
Rapid City, SD 57701

Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: General Public Comment
Agenda Item: Chickens
Comment:
I support allowing chickens in Rapid City
Name: Betty Backus
Address: 3505 Cypress Ct; Rapid City SD 57701
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: 33. LF093020-04

Comment:

Re Ordinance 6445 - change of ordinance to allow hens to be kept in the City of Rapid City. I am against allowing hens to be kept by residents in Rapid City. Unlike Sioux Falls, Rapid City is on the edge of the Black Hills National Forest. We already have predators roaming our neighborhoods and it only seems logical that there will be an increased number of encounters with wild animals prowling locations where hens will be kept. Many wild animals such as skunks, fox, racoons, etc are known to carry rabies and they pose a threat to children, people and family pets. I do not feel that the council should put public health and safety at risk by allowing a few people to keep hens within the city, Please consider the welfare of the citizens of Rapid City and vote against the change to this ordinance.
Comment:

I fully support the Urban Hens - Rapid City group and any person or group who wishes to have chickens. I have known many people over the years in different states that have owned chickens and from my observations they make wonderful pets. They are quieter than dogs (most of my neighbors have dogs and I hear at least one barking for prolonged periods of time daily) and they are less intrusive than cats (my neighbors cat comes to my yard all the time and kills the songbirds that gather at my bird feeder). Not only are chickens wonderful pets, they are sources of food! Food security and food self-sustainability should be human rights. I believe it should be every persons right to own chickens and plant a vegetable garden. I would rather see my neighbors owning chickens and teaching their children to connect with their food than have barking dogs and killer cats in my neighborhood.
Name: Jason Reuter
Address: 3639 Jefferson St
Rapid City, SD 57702
Meeting: Legal and Finance
Comment Type: General Public Commnet
Agenda Item: Hens
Comment:

Please consider allowing citizens of Rapid City to keep and raise chickens. I can't tell you how many dogs I hear in my west side neighborhood baying all hours day and night, and other than protection and hunting, dogs are pretty useless (our family dog is no hunter, barks at guests, and practically invites stranger passersby into our yard). Chickens will be far more quiet, and can provide excellent protein to families. Any problems that arise from complaints can be handled individually.

I support urban hens, even though I've no current plans to procure any.
Name: Jamie Hower
Address: 726 Payton Court
Rapid City, SD 57702
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: Urban Hens
Comment:
Darla and Laura - please vote yes for hens! Westside Rapid City is a better place when we can grow, harvest, and cook our own fresh foods. Our community is responsible and will keep things clean and quiet! Have a great weekend!
I have been a long time supporter of urban hens. Cities all over the region now allow hens with some provisions, like limiting the number of hens, excluding roosters, size of coop, cleanliness, etc. It is time to allow citizens to raise their own food.
I am personally a vegetarian. The reason is because of the way the animals that we eat are treated. Absolutely terrible. I'm currently working towards veganism next because same goes for dairy animals. At the root of my choices is the belief that yes it is okay to eat meat and yes it is okay to consume other animal products, but not in such a selfish unethical manner. An example of the point I'm trying to prove follows; a husband and wife with 2 children and a dog can adopt 6 hens, 2 milk cows and one meat cow. That family is then taking the time from their lives to raise, love, nurture, feed, and house those animals giving back to them for what they will eventually do for that family. If hens aren't legal, it forces people to continue to give the inhumane animal abusing industries our hard earned money resulting in millions of neglected creatures and millions more to come.
Name: Caitlin Monahan
Address: 2707 Hoefer Ave, Rapid City, SD 57701
Meeting: Legal and Finance
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: Urban Hens
Comment:
I would like to see urban hens in Rapid City
Name: Monica Hartnett
Address: 3816 Brookside Dr
Meeting: Legal and Finance
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: Hens
Comment:

Hello's) I do not personally have hens yet I would absolutely support my neighbors doing so.
with the way the world is going these days and the limitation on places open today i honestly believe urban chickens would help out a lot of people money and responsibility wise not only could it teach people the ways of farming and where meet actually comes from it would also save money and CHICKENS i do not need to go into why industrialized meat of any form is bad yall already know about that
Name: Amy Schaller
Address: 116 N Platt st
Rapid City
South Dakota
57702
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: Hens in town
Comment:
I think Rapid City should allow hens in town.
Name: Kasey Reub
Address: 3801 Canyon Dr.
Rapid City, SD 57702
Meeting: Legal and Finance
Comment Type: General Public Comment
Agenda Item: Urban Hens
Comment:
I am in support of urban hens
Name: Kristina Proietti
Address: 1223 Fulton Street
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: General Public Comment
Agenda Item: Hens

Comment:

I am in full support of allowing hens inside the city of Rapid City. People should be allowed to obtain their own food, ie. eggs.
I SUPPORT of allowing urban hens in Rapid City.

I would like to address some myths

1. “Hens are loud and smelly”
Hens are far more quiet than a vocal dog. A hen will cackle when she lays eggs but this occurs once a day or less. A properly clean coop has no more objectionable odor than an unkempt backyard with dogs or a seldom changed litter box.

2. “Hens produce a lot of unsanitary waste”
An average dog will produce around 1lb of waste a day, whereas four hens will only produce about 1.5 ounces of waste per hen. 4 chickens produce less waste than a medium house cat.

3. “Hens will attract vermin to my neighborhood”
Hens can actually reduce vermin, since some breeds will eat mice, moles and small snakes as well as other pests like ticks, mosquitos, grasshoppers, etc.

4. “Hens will negatively affect property values”
No actual evidence indicating that property values drop due to backyard chickens is EVER cited.
Name: APRIL OEDEKOVEN
Address: 1707 space crt, rapid City, sd 57701
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: Chicken
Comment:
Please allow for urban chickens!
Name: Jaclyn Lanae
Address: 1105 W Blvd, Rapid City SD 57701
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: General Public Commnet
Agenda Item: Urban hens

Comment:

I believe backyard hens are a valuable resource in our city for many reasons; improved health of our citizens, improved health of our earth and water because hens manage insects and gardens without affecting the water like traditional fertilizers and pesticides (not to mention the natural fertilizer). They are not any louder or foul-smelling than dogs—and we have plenty of those. Even as a dog lover I know hens are less disruptive.
Name: Jessie Fenner
Address: 1901 Audubon Circle Rapid City, SD 57702
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: General Public Comment
Agenda Item: Urban Hens
Comment:
Now is a perfect time to allow local people the right to raise urban hens on their property. Perhaps now, more than ever, people need to be able to raise and grow their own food in their own backyards.
Name: James Randle
Address: 406 Belmont Dr. Rapid City, SD 57702
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: Urban Hens
Comment:
I support urban hens in Rapid City.
Name: Holly Riker
Address: 8545 kings ct
Rapid city
SD 57702
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item:
Comment:
I support urban hens
I just wanted to pop in to say I support this item as long as there are certain guidelines to be followed by owners so that the hens are properly cared for. These guidelines should help support owners with guidance to proper houses for the hens so there should be no issues with predation. I’ve seen animals not being properly cared for and I don’t want this to happen to these animals. Perhaps a permit system of some kind that would have the area/hen house certified before hens are purchased. This will also address and minimize issues with neighbors.
Name: Milidi Dickenson
Address: 1209 West Blvd, RC 57701
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: Urban Hens
Comment:
I support Urban hens.
Name: katherine denison
Address: 4606 staton pl
Rapid city S.D.
57702
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: General Public Commnet
Agenda Item: Urban hens
Comment:
I support urban hens
Name: Scott Burcham
Address: 4020 Sunset Drive
Rapid City, SD
57702

Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: Backyard hens
Comment:
I am in favor of having backyard hens, this will provide opportunity for citizens to help themselves.
Name: Tom Whillock
Address: 3321 Hall St
RC, SD
57702
Meeting: Legal and Finance
Comment Type: General Public Comment
Agenda Item: Urban hens
Comment:
I fully support urban hens.
Name: Jonathan Thompson
Address: 610 Haines Avenue Rapid City, 57701
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: General Public Comment
Agenda Item:
Comment:
I fully support urban hens in Rapid City.
Name: Tiffany Knight
Address: 7613 Junco Ln
Black Hawk, Sd 57718
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: Chickens in the rapid city limits
Comment:
As a realtor in Rapid City I would say this was one of the top requests by people moving to the area. I am highly supportive of chickens being allowed within city limits. I moved out of the city of rapid over six years ago to be able to have chickens. Still try and understand what the fuss is about having chickens? They're quiet as long as you don’t have a rooster and they provide great fertilizer for your garden.
Name: Ryan Manuel
Address: 3622 Hall St.
Rapid city, SD 57702
Meeting: Legal and Finance
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: Urban Hens
Comment:
I just wanted to comment that I fully support the use of Urban Hens in the City of Rapid. Sourcing food locally is both healthy and sustainable.
Name: Carson Schwalbe
Address: 5310 Rockcress Ct
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: urban hens
Comment:

i support having chickens and hens for personal supply of eggs within city limits and neighborhoods.
Name: Nick Huntington
Address: 38 Saint Patrick St, Rapid City SD 57701
Meeting: Legal and Finance
Comment Type: General Public Comment
Agenda Item:
Comment:

I support urban hens in Rapid City!
Name: Steph Gaston
Address: 710 San Marco Blvd.
Rapid City SD 57702
Meeting: Legal and Finance
Comment Type: General Public Comment
Agenda Item: Urban Hens

Comment:

It has been brought to my attention that there is opposition to allowing urban hens in Rapid City. While I have no desire to raise poultry at my home, I am a strong supporter of those who wish to do so - including my neighbors and friends. I urge you to consider approving Urban Hens. With so many families in Upheaval with Coronavirus, it is imperative that we allow families the opportunity to learn and grow together - taking care of animals and working to become self-reliant is a great bonding experience for families and teaches children lifelong skills.
Name: William C. Fleming
Address: 4470 Cliff Drive
Rapid City 57702
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: General Public Comment
Agenda Item: Urban Hens
Comment:
I support the right to keep urban hens in Rapid City.
Name: Charles Ray
Address: 324 Saint Andrew street
Meeting: City Council
Comment Type: Public Comment Agenda Item
Agenda Item: Urban chickens
Comment:
I am in full support of allowing urban hens inside the Rapid City limits.

Please pass this ordinance.

Thanks!

CMR
Thank you for the opportunity for comment on the proposed Urban Hen Ordinance.

As a young family living in Rapid City, we strongly support this initiative to responsibly allow residents to keep hens in accordance with the guidelines of this ordinance. For us, this isn't about egg production but rather an opportunity for my children to experience the satisfaction of caring for the hens while being a part of their food production process.

The concept of keeping hens within an urban environment is a proven concept throughout SD. Of the 5 largest SD cities, Rapid City stands alone in prohibiting the keeping of hens.

I would encourage those on the council who have expressed skepticism or opposition to this ordinance to have confidence in your neighbors and ward constituents to be responsible in this granted liberty, the same way we expect personal responsibility for other freedoms and allowances provided through our city’s ordinances.
My comment for having urban hens in the city is I don’t see a problem with it. I think 4-6 chickens would be enough and no roosters. People these days want fresh eggs to have healthier eggs for their family. If necessary I think it would be okay for the city to make sure they have a proper cage and area for them. Thank you for your time and hope to see this pass.
* For the 5 October meeting*

I am so pleased this is up for vote and could be a reality for my family.

It’s more likely that the person who chooses to invest in maintaining them are the ones who will actually take care of them, thus eliminating the noise and smell nuisance.

It’s unlikely that as soon as this passes, every single citizen will all of a sudden have hens in their backyards. Additionally many of the supporters are just that, supporters without the intent of having hens themselves. The point I am trying to make is the amount of people will actually have hens is lower than what people are assuming will happen.

The benefit that RC residents would receive who want to have urban hens far outweigh whatever small annoyances some cranky neighbor would have knowing there are hens in their neighbors yard.

I urge you to vote yes!