



BAKERSFIELD

THE SOUND OF *Something Better*

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE MEMORANDUM

February 4, 2021

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

FROM: JULIE DRIMAKIS, CITY CLERK

**SUBJECT: COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 3, 2021
PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Transmitting additional correspondence received after the City Clerk's Office 1pm deadline.

Attachments
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From: [Abegail Lontoc](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Backyard Hens
Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 5:52:00 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Dear City Council,

I support backyard hens. Please do not rescind the Ordinance.

Thank you.

Abegail Lontoc
661 889-6831

From: [Edwin S. Bonilla](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: All Council
Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 4:35:31 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Angela Henderson called to voice her opposition to the hen ordinance. She states they are unsanitary and promote pest infestations. You may reach her at 661 588 2260. She has contacted councilmen Weir directly already.



Edwin S. Bonilla | Clerk-Typist
City Clerk Office

City of Bakersfield
email: ebonilla@bakersfieldcity.us
web: www.bakersfieldcity.us
phone: 661-326-3071



From: Ginny Petersen <ginnypetersen57@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 9:42 AM

To: City_Council <City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us>

Subject: Website request

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

Please do not vote to have a Chick-fil-A in the parking lot on Rosedale in the old Pier One building. It is difficult enough to manage that parking lot and the fast food restaurants that are already there have inadequate space for cars to be in line.

From: [Grace Wilhelm](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Backyard hen initiative
Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 6:16:30 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I would like to voice my support for the backyard hen initiative which will be up for the recension at the Feb 3rd meeting. We're asking that the council uphold the ordinance that was fairly and legally passed. Our city has an obligation to uphold the previous vote and defend itself against this frivolous lawsuit. It is clear that there is no basis for this lawsuit, especially since we are exempt from CEQA "common sense" waiver, and this is a gross manipulation of environmental protection law.

Uphold the ordinance. Uphold the vote of the council for November 2020 legalizing hens for city residents. Uphold your obligation.

Thank you,
A concerned Kern County resident

From: amberjuly17@yahoo.com
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Chickens
Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 4:06:26 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I believe the city should repeal the chicken ordinance . The CEQA is important to the safety and health of all residents. There are many diseases that chicken droppings can carry, one that can cause severe lung damage, I believe the name is Histoplasmosis.

I live in the city, I have one neighbor who has had a chicken coop illegally up against the fence that separates our lots. The coop is 10 Ft from my dining room window. The city came out and told him to stop. He did for 6 months , then he got more chickens. Now the neighbor across the street has illegally put up a chicken coop.

I followed the law, they have not. They are endangering the health of others to please themselves. The CEQA needs to be done, following the rules. The city council seemed to push this through without regard for following normal procedures and now are getting taken to court about it.

If people want chickens go to the county. Please do not let a group smother the rights and health of people who bought their homes knowing that chickens weren't allowed in the city only to see the city pull the rug off from under them.

Repeal the chicken ordinance and then do it right. Follo CEQA and your own city staff recommendations .

Sincerely,

Janine McKinley

Sent from my iPad

From: [Kalli Beckwith](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [City Council](#); [bakersfield mayor](#); [AdmMgr](#)
Subject: City Council Code of Conduct
Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:16:49 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

In regard to my phone call with the City Clerk Julie, she indicated that Bakersfield hen supporters were "artificially inflating" the number of emails and phone calls because in some cases the same signatures were coming from multiple emails and in other cases emails of the same subject matter were being sent to the clerk's office, the Mayor, and the Council Members.

It's interesting that the bias seemed to land against the hen supporters. I'm not sure if this is because those in opposition aren't sending that many letters or making calls, or if there is another reason for her opinion.

What I said to her is that some of the reason this may be happening (from my own personal experience and the experiences of dozens of community members that I know of), is that not all council members have been available or willing to discuss this matter with their constituents.

I would like to thank Mr. Smith, Mr. Arias, and Mr. Gonzales, as well as Mr. Rivera and Ms. Sullivan, for their participation in this fair and transparent democratic process.

Through the process of supporting the ordinance that allows backyard hens, I've been deeply disappointed in the Council Members who refuse to communicate with their constituents, or refuse to keep an open mind on the matter. They seem to hold a personal opinion and are not willing to change that opinion based on community feedback. Mr. Parlier indicated to someone else that because of the realtor's association support against the ordinance, he won't support the ordinance. I can't understand why this has become a political matter.

As a concerned Bakersfield resident, this whole process has led me to inquire as to the Code of Conduct or Code of Ethics regarding the City Council member's roles and responsibilities. Much to my surprise, no code has ever existed.

This is fairly common practice in municipalities throughout the country and it's an expectation of most Boards. In the 464 pages of the Policies and Procedures guide for the Council, the City Clerk indicated I wouldn't find anything about a code of conduct for council members.

Here's one great resource: <https://www.westerncity.com/article/beyond-ethics-establishing-code-conduct-guide-your-council>

I would like to know and understand the process for which council members interact with constituents, vote on measures with regard to their personal opinions and biases, how they fairly represent their wards, what the expectations are for them to represent and communicate with their wards, how their roles and responsibilities are defined, if there is a grievance

process, etc. I ask that a Code of Conduct be developed, specifically with regard to the relations with our community. I look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,

Kalli Beckwith, M.S., BCBA
kallibeckwith@gmail.com
(661) 301-1443

"If better is possible, good is not enough."

From: [Edwin S. Bonilla](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Bruce Freeman
Date: Thursday, February 4, 2021 8:26:41 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Sabrina Cornelius called to voice her disappointment in the council's decision to remove the hen ordinance. She feels the council is cowering to the demands of Terry Maxwell. She states the issue is actually about our rights and liberties. You can call her back anytime at 661 900 7921.



Edwin S. Bonilla | Clerk-Typist
City Clerk Office

City of Bakersfield
email: ebonilla@bakersfieldcity.us
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phone: 661-326-3071



From: [Terry Gonsman](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: hen ordinance
Date: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 9:39:40 PM

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Bakersfield. Think before you click!

I don't personally own hens, but I think it's despicable that you would vote for it, then 5-6 months later repeal it. Do some research, hens are much less of a nuisance than most people's dogs they leave outside and allow to bark all day and night. What are these people supposed to do with their hens now that you're telling them they can't have them? Absolutely disgusting and ignorant. There are so many other things you elected officials could be focusing your time on...how about dealing with record homicides, crime, or homelessness instead of backyard hens. Thank you to the three of you for voting the right way, anyone that voted to repeal this is weak and uninformed.