

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

September 23, 2025

The Legislative Committee of Chardon City Council met on Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at 5:45 PM in the Conference Room on the second floor of the Chardon Municipal Center.

Daniel Meleski, Chairman of Legislative Committee presiding.

Members of Legislative Committee present: Daniel Meleski, Heather Means.

Others present: City Manager Benjamin Young, Clerk of Council Amy Day, Law Director Benjamin Chojnacki, Community Development Administrator Steve Yaney.

Mr. Meleski called the Legislative Committee to order at 5:45 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Means moved and Mr. Meleski seconded to approve the minutes of the Legislative Committee from January 9, 2025 as written. Upon voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

Regarding amendments to the City-wide animal regulations, Community Development Administrator Steve Yaney stated that amendments to Sections 505, 1103 and 1133 are proposed to establish more precise regulations regarding animals and fowl and identity setbacks where certain structures may be located relative to animals or fowl. He reviewed the proposed amendments:

- Amendments in Section 505 include expanding the list of animals and establishing regulations for beehives.
- Amendments to 1133 include regulations to the planning and zoning code which will allow housing structures and animal runs, and establishes the locations and setbacks.
- Amendments to 1103 include an expansion of the definition of livestock.

Law Director Ben Chojnacki stated that the legislation is in 2 parts:
code enforcement and land use regulations.

Ms. Means asked if there is any grandfathering in for animals.

Mr. Chojnacki stated that the setbacks would not apply to people who currently have structures on their property because they vested their rights under the prior law. Existing structures are grandfathered in; however, the nuisance conditions portion of the regulations, such as smell, do not grandfather anyone in.

Ms. Means asked about support animals.

Mr. Chojnacki stated that City's code can be interpreted with reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities.

Mr. Meleski moved and Ms. Means seconded to recommend Council recommend to Planning Commission a review and approval of the text amendments in the draft ordinance regarding City-wide animal regulations. Upon voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - none.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN

Ms. Means moved and Mr. Meleski seconded to adjourn the Legislative Committee meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:07 PM.

Attest:

AMY DAY
Clerk of Council