

**Public Hearing Minutes**  
**Wednesday January 19, 2022, 5:45 pm**  
**Town Hall Conference Room**

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Public hearing called to order at 5:45 pm by Select Board chairman David Pierce

There were 8 members of the public present, including the 3 Selectboard members

The purpose of this public hearing is to hear public comments on a proposed amendment to the Portage Lake Land Use Ordinance as follows: "To allow chickens within the Village Area under the following conditions: maximum of 12 chickens, no roosters, no free range, Best Management Practices must be followed, all structures that house and enclose egg-laying hens must meet setbacks for the Zone in which they are to be kept."

**Public Comments:**

Question: How this will affect Shoreland Zoning

Answer: It will have to meet the law of all setbacks already in place for each zoned area. People along the shoreline will be limited to where they could have chickens, if able. Setbacks would also take into consideration runoff into ditches and the lake

Question: Can people combine together to have 12 chickens per person into one cage?

Answer: The 12 chickens allowed is per lot, not per person

Question: What about odor?

Answer: Portage doesn't have an odor ordinance. If Best Management practices are followed, as required, there won't be much of an odor issue. The Animal Control Officer will be required to make sure owners are following guidelines.

Public Hearing was adjourned at 5:53 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Corrine Routhier

Town Clerk