

Sep. 28, 2007

Letters to the Editor

<snip>

Inspections of exotic animals

This letter is regarding the Sept. 14 article by Mark Waite "Animal ordinance would require annual inspections."

I believe most animal owners dislike Animal Zoning Bill No. 2007. Hopefully many will show up opposing it in front of commissioners at 8:30 a.m. on Oct. 24 in Pahrump.

It puts unreasonable and unnecessary restrictions on animal ownership for ordinary individuals.

The definitions are vague, often in conflict with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) and with current zoning definitions.

If years from now extreme animal rights activists got in the position of power, they could add agricultural animals to the list of 'special animals' and make the parameters so hard to comply with that we will be vegetarians grazing on tumbleweed.

When banning or regulating, you are taking responsibility for all animals in violation of this ordinance. Will the county take care of the animals if somebody doesn't comply, or have them euthanized? Is the county ready to have blood of these animals on their hands?

In the name of 'public health and safety' it puts more restrictions on Pahrump owners than what Clark County allows.

If urban Clark County has no issues allowing horses and exotics on less than one acre, how can it be issue in rural Pahrump?

If people are scared of wildlife, they should NOT be here. Pahrump has wild uncaged cougars and rattlesnakes. Why fear caged animals if you live in wild cougar territory?

Nobody can ask for 100 percent safety in this world, not at the expense of others' freedom and especially if their fear is based on pure emotions and non-existent threat instead of science and facts.

This ordinance is discriminatory toward non-horse businesses. It is illegal under Constitutional 14th amendment, equal protection of the law, by giving preferential

treatment to horse businesses. Horses are one of the most mistreated animals in Pahrump.

Either regulate all species/businesses the same, or give all animal owners the same sweet deal horse owners got.

The Bill allows rodeos in residential one acre district with a special use permit. Somebody with a 10 pound exotic cat needs a special use permit and two acres.

A commercial stable is defined as a non-residential facility, why would rodeo be allowed in residential RE-1 district?

Horses kill more people than exotics or dogs in Nevada. Is being killed by a horse by kick in the head any worse than being killed by a tiger by a bite to the neck? In either case, the person is dead; there is only one degree of death. I used to ride horses, and the worse animal related injury I ever had in my life was from a horse, not an exotic animal.

Mr. Brent Jones mentioned Pahrump is very attractive to terrorists. Why waste resources on animals if there is potentially real terrorist threat here?

I was turned off by the comment that we shouldn't protest, since we are grandfathered in. What a selfish comment, what about protecting freedoms of the future generations? Our soldiers are shedding blood fighting terrorists and trying to bring freedom to other countries, while our own government at home is busy taking our freedoms away.

As somebody who had to risk a lot to legally become a US citizen, I am extremely disappointed to hear these selfish comments.

Hunters or farmers don't want non-farmer, non-hunter city folks to write ordinances for them, the same way animal folks don't want to have animal ordinances written by city people ... not any different that you wouldn't want a gynecologist to do brain surgery on you.

The Bill will negatively affect local businesses if fewer animal owners are buying supplies (animal food, fencing, veterinary services).

By being discriminatory and unfair, it puts the county at the risk of being sued, which would tie up the court system and cost money. Animal control is busy as it is, so if this passes, more AC officers will have to be hired, and that costs money too.

If the owner doesn't pay the fees for non-compliance and goes to jail, who will pay for the animal care? It will become a county problem and cost money. What will the county do, kill the animals? Are we facing mass animal killing here? Sincerely,

ZUZANA KUKOL