



CITY OF FERNLEY

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: November 17, 2021

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| REPORT TO: | Mayor and City Council |
| REPORT THRU: | Daphne Hooper, City Manager |
| REPORT FROM: | Kim Swanson, City Clerk |

| | | |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| FINANCIAL IMPACT: Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/> | CURRENTLY BUDGETED: Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/> | FUND/ACCOUNT: 220-480-800 |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|

ACTION REQUESTED: Consent Ordinance Resolution Motion Receive/File

AGENDA ITEM: (For Possible Action):
Presentation and possible direction to staff regarding redistricting the City of Fernley election ward boundaries.

Agenda Item Brief:
The current city ward boundary lines are within the 5% margin as allowed by NRS 266.095. However, should the council wish to realign the boundaries to bring them closer to the projected 4,613 population per ward, Fernley Municipal Code will need to be updated. Staff is waiting for Nevada Legislature to meet for a special session in November to determine if Lyon County needs to adjust boundary lines.

Recommended Motion:
"I move to direct staff to keep the ward boundaries as they are currently aligned with the 5% margin as allowed per NRS 266.095.
OR
"I move to direct staff to proceed with redistricting City of Fernley Ward Boundaries including updating the Fernley Municipal Code as required."

Business Impact (per NRS Chapter 237):
 A Business Impact Statement is Attached.
 A Business Impact Statement is not required because this is not a rule (term excludes vehicles by which legislative powers are exercised under NRS Chapters 271, 278, 278A, or 278B).

See attached report for background, analysis, alternatives.

ALTERNATIVES:

BACKGROUND:

Redistricting is the act of redrawing the boundaries for election districts. Because the population shifts over time, district boundaries must be adjusted periodically to ensure districts are equally populated. Since the 1960s, the U.S. Supreme Court has held that electoral districts must have equal population or nearly equal population so that each person's vote has equal weight (known as the "one-person, one-vote" requirement).

Pursuant to NRS 266.095, once the ward boundaries are established upon incorporation, they must be changed when the population in any ward exceeds the population in any other ward by more than 5%. Ward boundaries may be changed to included territory which has been annexed into the city, or after a national decennial census is completed.

Ward boundaries were established by the Lyon County Commissioner in 2001 when the City of Fernley incorporated.

In 2006 ward boundaries were adjusted due to the large population growth. Because of a lack of census information regarding population counts, ward boundaries were realigned based on the numbers of residential structures and dwelling units. Data was compiled from the city's Geographic Information System and Lyon County Assessor's database.

In 2011, based on decennial census information, Wards 4 and 5 had population counts that exceeded the allowable 5% margin.

According to the Nevada Legislature and Lyon County, Fernley population count is listed at 23,064. The US Census Bureau lists our population at 22,895. The difference of 169 people included residents on Campfire Circle in the Donner Trails subdivision.

Currently, the boundary map is determined using information from 2011 population counts.

| | Population | % of total |
|--------|------------|------------|
| Ward 1 | 3915 | 20.21% |
| Ward 2 | 3784 | 19.54% |
| Ward 3 | 3888 | 20.07% |
| Ward 4 | 3897 | 20.12% |
| Ward 5 | 3884 | 20.05% |
| Total | 19368 | 100.00% |

The suggested ward boundary map using the 23,064-population count.

| | Population | % of total | |
|--------|------------|------------|-------|
| Ward 1 | 4218 | 18.29% | 3.16% |
| Ward 2 | 4947 | 21.45% | |
| Ward 3 | 4622 | 20.04% | |
| Ward 4 | 4387 | 19.02% | |
| Ward 5 | 4890 | 21.20% | |
| Total | 23064 | 100.00% | |

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

NRS 266.095

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

ATTACHMENTS:

None