

Recommended Council MOTION:

No action needed. Direction needed to allow staff to prepare an ordinance for formal adoption of new ward boundaries.

Administrative or Policy Goal:

Maintain compliance with local and state laws.

Background:

The new Census data from 2020 shows that our current boundary lines no longer meet the requirement in Wyoming State Statute 22-23-103(a) of nearly equal portions of the population as possible. This necessitates the City Council’s consideration to redraw the boundaries and pass by ordinance change. A Work Session was held on November 10, 2021 to begin discussing the necessity for re-drawing the Ward Boundary lines. City Council held their Ward Meetings on November 29th to discuss different proposed boundaries and receive input from within their wards. On December 28, 2021 City Council met to discuss possible options that would coordinate with the County Clerk and precinct boundaries. We have postponed further discussion until this time to allow the legislature to begin adoption of redistricting to ensure that our ward boundaries would not be in conflict or create undue resource requirements during elections. The redistricting is still being worked on in the house and senate. At this time, it appears that Albany County will remain whole but things could change for session is finished.

The Albany County Clerk and her elections team prefer proposal 2.1.

Legal/Statutory Authority:

W.S. 22-23-103. Division of city into wards; residency.

(a) A city may be divided into wards by ordinance of the governing body of the city. The wards shall be compact in form and as nearly equal in population as possible.

Responsible Staff:

Janine Jordan, City Manager
Bob Southard, City Attorney
Nancy Bartholomew, City Clerk
Shawn Kraft, GIS Analyst

Attachments:

PowerPoint Presentation- WS Ward Boundaries 3-1-22