

A number of contentious issues get a vote tonight from the La Crosse city council. After a year of wrangling over chickens, the council is expected to approve an ordinance that will allow backyard chickens. The ordinance is for two years at which time it will sunset and will have to be reaffirmed by the council. The vote on allowing police to write tickets for first time marijuana possession is likely to be close. The council deadlocked on the issue on Tuesday and mayor Matt Harter has previously vetoed the measure. A storm water utility, whether to fund a consultant to evaluate the fire department, a one year moratorium on electronic billboards, and setting the size of the council are among the other weighty issues to be decided by council members tonight.