

ORDINANCE 820

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 47 – MUNICIPAL PARK POLICIES AND REGULATIONS.

WHEREAS, the City Administration has recommended updating the City's Municipal Park Policies and Regulations; and

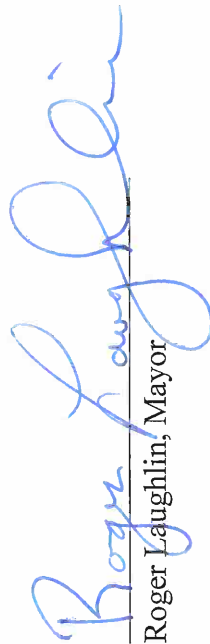
WHEREAS, the City Administrator and Parks & Recreation Director have proposed a total revision to the existing Chapter 47 of the Code of Ordinances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED:

1. Amendment. Chapter 47 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Branch, Iowa, is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with the proposed Chapter 47 listed on Exhibit "A" attached hereto and incorporated into this Ordinance by this reference.
2. Conflicts. All ordinances or parts of ordinances not specifically provided for and in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.
3. Adjudication. If any section, provision or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.
4. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage, approval and publication as required by law.

Passed and approved this 16th day of December, 2024.

First reading: November 18, 2024
Second reading: December 2, 2024
Third Reading: December 16, 2024


Roger Laughlin, Mayor

ATTEST:


Leslie Brick, City Clerk

I certify that the foregoing was published as Ordinance No. 820 on the 26th day of December, 2024.



City Clerk

EXHIBIT A

Chapter 47

Municipal Park Policies and Regulations

47.01 Reservations

Reservations for park facilities are to be made online or through the Parks and Recreation Director. Any fees tied to the reservation must be made before the event either online or at the City Office during regular business hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Unless a reservation is documented, all facilities in all parks shall be open for public use on a first-come, first-served basis. No person under the age of 21 years old may make a reservation where alcohol will be present.

47.02 Parking and Motor Vehicles

Parking is limited to designated parking areas only. Violators will be towed at the owner's expense. No motorized (electric or gas) vehicles are allowed in or on any area of the parks other than the parking lot. Park access for the loading and unloading of equipment on the grounds for functions (carnival, day camp, volleyball tournament, etc.) must be approved by the Parks and Recreation Director.

47.03 Fires and Fireworks

Open fires will be allowed but limited to the designated fire receptacles. Fires must be supervised, extinguished, and cleaned up before exiting the park. Acceptable fire fuels include charcoal and wood. Fireworks and explosives are prohibited in the park without prior approval of the Council.

47.04 Trash

All park patrons are responsible for proper cleanup and disposal of their trash. Receptacles are provided for this. It is unlawful to transport garbage, refuse, or litter from any household, business or other place to any area of the park for the purpose of disposing of the same in any refuse container provided in the parks.

47.05 Building Reservation Responsibilities

Before departure, building responsibilities include: securing all doors and windows, turning off lights and water faucets, sweeping of floors, wiping down tables, and removing trash from the building as stated in section 47.04.

47.06 Park Hours

Normal park hours are from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily unless approved by Special Event permit. All public restrooms and water service will be opened in the spring and closed in the fall on dates to be determined by City staff.

47.07 Alcohol Consumption

Any violation of this section 47.07 can lead to denied future permit requests and may be filed as a simple misdemeanor or a municipal infraction citation. The beer, wine or canned cocktails cannot be

consumed in glass containers. The consumption of beer, wine or canned cocktails in a city park is allowed under the following conditions:

1. When the requirements listed on the Special Event Permit form are met, prior to the proposed consumption of beer, wine or canned cocktails, the person intending to consume or provide beer, wine or canned cocktails at a city park shall apply for a permit from the Clerk on a form supplied by the City.
2. When the requirements listed on the Special Event Permit form are not met, but all laws and codes are followed and consumption is at a park which Council has approved alcohol consumption at.

47.08 Damage

Damage to the park facilities will result in an assessment of the cost of replacement materials and resulting labor.

47.09 Private Property

Users of park facilities shall be respectful of the private property adjacent to the park.

47.10 Permits

It is unlawful for any person to occupy any portion of any area of the parks for advertising, political campaign, peddling, or any other commercial activity without a permit approved by the City Clerk.

47.11 Hunting and Weapons

Hunting, archery, weapons, or discharge of firearms are prohibited within the boundaries of the park without prior approval of the Council.

47.12 Animals on Leash

No privately owned animal shall be allowed to run at large within the boundaries of the parks unless at the Dog Park. All privately owned animals shall either be on a leash or chain held by a person capable of restraining and controlling said animal. It is the responsibility of the pet owner to clean up after their animal(s).

47.13 Smoking, Vaping, and Tobacco

The use or act of smoking, vaping, and tobacco is prohibited within the boundaries of the park unless in the confines of a car.