

**ORDINANCE 2024-008 OF THE TOWN OF LAWRENCE, WISCONSIN
TO AMEND ORDINANCE CHAPTER 197 – Parks and Recreation Areas**

Purpose: The purpose of this Ordinance is to create a Park Committee for advisory purposes on future park and trail improvements and to place it into existing Chapter 197 – Parks and Recreation Areas.

The Town Board of Supervisors of the Town of Lawrence do ordain as follows:

Section 1: Town of Lawrence Ordinance Chapter 197 – Parks and Recreation Areas is hereby repealed and replaced to read as follows:

Ch. 197 – Parks and Recreation Areas

§ 197-1. Purpose and intent.

The purpose of these regulations shall be to protect the parks and parkways and appurtenances thereto in the Town from fire, abuse, and desecration; to provide for the recreational use of these areas; to control and regulate traffic and maintain general order therein; and to further the safety, health, comfort, morals and welfare of all persons while within the limits of the parks and parkways.

§ 197-2. Authority.

The Town Board of the Town of Lawrence has the specific authority under § 60.77, Wis. Stats., and the general authority under its village powers to adopt this chapter. The Town Board of Supervisors is authorized to adopt additional rules and regulations as may be necessary for the management of parks and the use thereof and may implement and enforce the same.

§ 197-3. Park Advisory Committee.

A. Composition and Appointment. The Town Park Committee shall consist of five members nominated by the Town Chairperson and appointed by the Town Board of Supervisors in writing and filed with the Town Clerk. Up to one Town Board Supervisor shall be included as a member of the Park Committee.

B. Term. The term of each member shall be for five (5) years. Initial appointments upon the creation of the committee shall be staggered so that in each year a new appointment of one member shall be made by the Town Board of Supervisors.

C. Purpose. Make advisory recommendations on governing, managing, controlling, improving and caring for all public parks and trails within the limits and jurisdiction of the Town of Lawrence and promoting the orderly and suitable use and enjoyment thereof by the general public.

D. Compensation of members of the Town Park Committee shall be set by the Town Board annually and once set shall remain in such amount until amended or changed by the Town Board. Compensation is in the form of a stipend to be paid for members according to attendance at meetings of the Park Committee and not for labor and/or services performed at the request of the Park Committee.

§ 197-4. Closing hours in parks.

A. All public parks and public playgrounds in the Town shall be closed from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., unless otherwise posted. No person shall be within the Town parks between these times.

B. The Town Board or its designee may grant to any group wishing to use a specific public park or public playground permission to use such public park or public playground during closed hours. Permission shall be given in writing and shall contain the name of the group, the name of the responsible person in charge of the group, the extended closing time, and the date for which permission to use the specific public park or public playground beyond the closed hours is granted.

§ 197-5. Disorderly conduct.

A. No person shall use threatening, abusive, insulting, obscene, or indecent language which constitutes a breach of the peace.

B. No person violating any of the prohibitions enumerated in Subsection A above shall be allowed to remain in any park or parkway.

§ 197-6. Waste disposal.

A. No person shall scatter, drop, or leave any piece of paper, rag, cans, plastic, glass, refuse or other garbage, smoking materials, dead flowers or other rubbish in any portion of the parks or parkways except in the receptacles provided for that purpose. All trash created by the person(s) using the park shall be removed from the premises by said person(s).

B. No person(s) shall deposit, dump, throw or place any earth, rubbish, dust, manure, paper, garbage or other refuse matter or any sand, stone, lumber or building material or any substance in the water, grounds or roadways of any park or parkway without permission of the Town Board or its designee.

C. Burning of garbage or other rubbish in barrels is prohibited.

D. Glass beverage containers of any kind or measure whatsoever are prohibited.

E. Special events. The person in charge of a special event is responsible for the removal of all garbage from the grounds after the event.

§ 197-7. Excessive noise prohibited.

Auto radios, portable radios, CD players, recording devices and television sets must be turned low at all times so as not to be heard from a distance beyond 50 feet from the instrument. No bands or disc jockeys (DJ) are allowed to set up and perform outside without a permit from the Town Board or its designee.

§ 197-8. Permit required for advertising, sales or solicitation.

A. No person shall sell, keep or offer for sale any tangible or intangible article, merchandise or thing, nor solicit for any trade, occupation, business or profession, or for alms, within any park or parkway, without the written permission of the Town Board or its designee.

B. No person shall distribute, post, affix, or display any card, handbill, sign, placard, target, banner, flag (except of the United States), or advertisement of any kind within any park or parkway, or upon any of the gates or enclosures thereof, without the written permission of the Town Board or its designee.

§ 197-9. Permit required for sale of fermented malt beverages.

A. Special event permission required. No person or group shall sell, offer for sale or give away any fermented malt beverages in a Town park in conjunction with a picnic or other special event without first obtaining a permit therefore from the Town Board or its designee.

B. Issuance; conditions; fee. Such permits may be issued by the Town Board or its designee upon receipt of such information as it may require from the applicant and upon receipt of a permit fee. Permits shall be valid for that period of time to be specified by the Town Board. (See the current Town of Lawrence Miscellaneous Fee Schedule for appropriate fee amount.)

§ 197-10. Interference with permittees prohibited.

A. No person shall in any manner disturb, harass, or interfere with any person or party holding a written permit as indicated previously, nor with any of his or its equipment or property.

B. Permits for the exclusive use of any picnic or play area for any specified date or time may be granted at the discretion of the Town Board or its designee, and no person shall in any manner disturb or interfere with any person or party occupying the ground under such a permit, nor with any of his or its equipment or property.

§ 197-11. Fireworks, weapons and hunting prohibited.

No person shall carry, fire, or discharge any gun, air gun, pistol, or firearm, nor any rocket, torpedo or any other fireworks of any description, nor shall any person hunt with bow and arrow within any park or parkway.

§ 197-12. Throwing of stones or missiles prohibited; hitting golf balls.

No person shall throw stones or missiles in or into any park, parkway, or waterways. No person shall hit golf balls in or into any park, parkway, or waterways unless a designated area is provided and authorized by the Town Board.

§ 197-13. Making of fires restricted.

A. No person shall make or kindle a fire for any purpose except in places provided therefor, and then subject to such regulations as may be prescribed.

B. The use of charcoal burners and grills in designated picnic areas shall be permitted, provided that lawns and other vegetation are not damaged and provided further that all unburned coals or ash is disposed of in such a manner as to prevent fire or damage to any park property.

C. No booyah kettles or other similar cooking utensils are allowed with an open fire unless placed on a raised steel platform with a minimum of four inches of air space between the ground surface and platform.

§ 197-14. Use of vehicles and riding horses; restrictions on animals.

A. No person shall operate a motor vehicle or any other vehicles or ride a horse or walk in any part of the property in a Town park except upon facilities provided therefor.

B. Animals are not allowed in parks or parkways, with the exception of Lost Dauphin Park. All animals must be kept on a leash. Owners are responsible for the prompt removal of excrement or other solid waste deposited by a dog or other animal.

§ 197-15. Protection of waterfowl, birds and animals.

No person shall kill, injure, or attempt to injure or unnecessarily disturb any waterfowl or other birds or animals, wild or domestic, within any of the parks or parkways, nor shall any person rob or disturb the nest or eggs of any bird or other animal therein.

§ 197-16. Injury to vegetation, structures and equipment prohibited.

A. No person shall climb any tree or pluck any flowers or fruit, wild or cultivated, or break, cut down, trample upon, remove or in any manner injure or deface, write upon, defile or ill use any tree, shrub, flower, flowerbed, turf, fountain, ornament, statue, building, fence, apparatus, bench, table, official notice, sign, bridge, structure or other property within any park or parkway.

B. No person in any park or parkway shall remove any device for the protection of trees or shrubs, nor shall any person fasten a horse or other animal next to any tree, shrub or grass plot which may become damaged by the animal.

§ 197-17. Camping.

A. No person shall sleep or camp or lodge in any park or parkway. An authorized person charged with guarding property overnight for a special event is exempt from this regulation.

B. No person shall erect a tent or similar appurtenances except with special permission from the Town Board or its designee.

§ 197-18. Driving and parking vehicles and bicycles.

A. Parking and driving of any motorized vehicles and bicycles are prohibited on nonpaved areas in Town parks or parkways. This shall not apply to vehicles engaged in construction, maintenance or operation of the parks or parkways or to vehicles making deliveries to parks or parkways, nor to emergency vehicles.

B. No parking is allowed in places reserved for emergency vehicles only nor in posted areas along the property.

§ 197-19. Special events and league play.

A. Shelter and ball field rental and fees. It will be necessary to reserve the shelter and/or the ball field for both special events and league play. Reservations will be scheduled by the Town Board or its designee and will be on a first-come-first-served basis. Fees will be reviewed on a yearly basis and will be determined on costs incurred during the season for maintenance, lighting, and other operating expenses.

B. Cleanup.

(1) All grounds, buildings, and parking areas must be cleaned of any garbage, rubbish, or refuse after a special event or league play.

(2) The responsible person in charge will receive a list of specific cleanup regulations prior to the event.

C. Closing. The responsible person in charge of a special event or league play will receive specific regulations on proper closing procedures prior to each event.

§ 197-20. Violations and penalties.

Any person violating this chapter shall be subject to a penalty as provided in § 1-3 of this Code.

Section 2: Severability

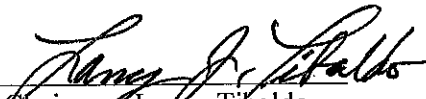
If any provision of this ordinance is found invalid or unconstitutional, or if the application of this Ordinance to any person or circumstances is invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the other provisions or application of this Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid or unconstitutional provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are severable.

Section 3: This amendment to existing ordinances shall be effective upon passage and publication as provided by Law.


Passed by the Town Board of Supervisors of the Town of Lawrence, Wisconsin on this 28th day of October 2024.

TOWN OF LAWRENCE

Introduced by: Supervisor Brien
Seconded by: Supervisor Bain
Vote: 5-ayes, 0-nays


Town Chairman, Larry Tibaldo

Attest:


Town Clerk, Cindy Kocken

