

THE CITY OF



OWATONNA

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DATE: April 20, 2021
TO: Mayor and City Council, City Administrator
FROM: Jenna Tuma, Director of Parks and Recreation
Eric Anderson, Recreation Manager
SUBJECT: Lake Kohlmier Ordinance Amendment

Purpose:

Request Council adopt Proposed Ordinance 21-4, an amendment to City Code Title IX: General Regulations, Chapter 91, Section 91.41 Lake Kohlmier Swimming Restrictions.

Background:

An increased number of individuals are using the fishing pier on the north side of Lake Kohlmier as a diving platform and swimming in an undesignated swim area, creating a safety concerns brought on by diving into undetermined water depths and swimming / diving among fishing activities.

Ordinance 91.41 Swimming Restrictions identifies designated swim areas but does not include language regarding jumping off unauthorized structures. The ordinance reads “No person shall swim or bathe in Lake Kohlmier, except at the designated swimming area at the municipal beach during times designated by the City Parks and Recreation Department.”

Currently there is not a sign posted on the fishing pier restricting the activity. By amending this ordinance, it allows staff to properly post signage to educate the user and as needed, enforce the ordinance.

City Attorney Mark Walbran reviewed and developed the proposed change.

The Park Board voted to recommend the approval of the amendment at their April 12, 2021 meeting.

Budget Impact:

The cost to post signs at the North DNR fishing pier and update the Beach Rules sign near the swim beach and beach house. All signs will be printed in Hispanic, Somali and English languages.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of the first reading of proposed Ordinance 21-4.

Proposed Ordinance No. 21-4

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE IX OF THE 2015 ORDINANCE CODE
OF THE CITY OF OWATONNA, AS AMENDED, BY
AMENDING CHAPTER 91 RELATING TO RECREATION AND LEISURE.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OWATONNA DO ORDAIN:

Section 1. Title IX of the 2015 Ordinance Code of the City of Owatonna, as amended, is hereby amended by amending § 91.41, to read as follows:

§ 91.41. SWIMMING RESTRICTIONS.

No person shall swim or bathe in Lake Kohlmier, except at the designated swimming area at the municipal beach during times designated by the City Park and Recreation Department. No person shall jump, dive, or enter Lake Kohlmier to swim from any dock or other structure in or abutting Lake Kohlmier, except from authorized structures at the designated swimming area at the municipal beach during times designated by the City Parks and Recreation Department.

Section 2. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication.

Passed and adopted this __ day of April, 2021, with the following vote:

Aye _____; No _____; Absent; _____.

Approved and signed this _____ day of April, 2021.

Thomas A. Kuntz, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kris M. Busse, City Administrator/City Clerk/Treasurer

UNDERLINING INDICATES NEW LANGUAGE. STRIKEOUTS INDICATE DELETIONS.