



**Legislative Committee
Meeting Notice
Tuesday, October 1, 2024**

Legislative Committee

Jake Cattanach, Chair
Patrick Delaney, Vice-Chair
Ryan Austin

Notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Legislative Committee to be held on Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 444 West Grand Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids. The meeting will be streamed live on the City of Wisconsin Rapids Facebook page and will also be broadcast live on Charter Cable Channel 985 and Solarus HD Cable Channel 3. If a member of the public wishes to access this meeting live via Zoom audio conferencing, you must contact the City Clerk at least 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting to coordinate your access.

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Discuss and consider for approval an ordinance which would require that the Municipal Judge be an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Wisconsin.
3. Discussion regarding the City ordinance regulating chickens, found in 25.02(3) of the Municipal Code.
4. Adjourn

Susan C. Schill
City Attorney

The City of Wisconsin Rapids encourages participation from all its citizens. If access to any public meeting is not possible, notification to the City Clerk's office at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting is encouraged to make the necessary accommodations. Call the Clerk at (715) 421-8200 to request accommodations.

ORDINANCE NO. MC_____

A GENERAL ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WISCONSIN RAPIDS AMENDING THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE MUNICIPAL JUDGE

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WISCONSIN RAPIDS DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I Section 2.20(2) of the Wisconsin Rapids Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

2.20 (2) Election/Qualifications. The municipal judge shall be elected at large in the spring election ~~commencing with the 1996 Spring Election and thereafter every four~~ two years. The term will begin on May 1 of the year elected. The Municipal Judge shall be an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Wisconsin.

SECTION II All ordinances, or parts of ordinances, in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION III This ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Matt Zacher, Mayor

Jennifer M. Gossick, City Clerk

PASSED:
APPROVED:
PUBLISHED:



Committee Referral

Name of Committee: Legislative Committee

Date of Request: Tuesday, August 27, 2024

Requestor: Madalyn Palmquist

Request/Referral: Discuss revision to Chapter 25 of the Municipal Code Section 25.02(3)(d)

Background information: I was contacted by a resident inquiring about obtaining chickens, the section of the ordinance which states '*the applicant for a permit must notify all abutting property owners of their intention to keep or maintain chickens prior to applying for a permit*', was confusing to them as they assumed they would need abutting property owner permission or signatures on the permit in order to be in compliance with the ordinance.

Not only is this confusing for those wishing to own chickens, but it differs from all other requirements for owning animals, *only* chickens require permission from other property owners. It also creates an unnecessary burden for those interested in owning chickens, which leads to residents not completing the permit process and obtaining the animals anyway.

Options available: (1) Leave the code as is. (2) Revise the code and permit.

Staff recommendation:

Action you are requesting the committee take: Consider revision the code to simplify ownership and increase compliance.

How will the item be financed? N/A.

Supporting documentation:

Permit Application: https://www.wirapids.org/uploads/1/0/3/3/103347874/chicken_permit_-_web_form.pdf

Publicly available version of Municipal Code:

https://www.wirapids.org/uploads/1/0/3/3/103347874/chapter_25.offenses_against_public.pdf