



Mayor and Council Communication

August 8, 2011

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SUBJECT: * First Reading of Ordinance 2011-12: An Ordinance to Amend and Reenact Subsection 6-1-4E of the Moorhead Municipal Code Relating to Park Rules and Regulations: Pets.

RECOMMENDATION: The Mayor and City Council are asked to consider changes to Subsection 6-1-4E of the Moorhead Municipal Code relating to Parks Rules and Regulations: Pets.

BACKGROUND / KEY POINTS: Regulations not allowing pets into the athletic complexes of Matson, Centennial and Moorview have been part of the Moorhead City Code since 2005. These complexes were listed specifically in the ordinance. In 2006 Menards purchased the Moorview Soccer Complex at which point the soccer complex was relocated to the Southside Regional Park.

Language of the pet ordinance needs to be changed to eliminate Moorview Soccer Complex and replace it with Southside Regional Park.

Pets are allowed in all other areas throughout the Moorhead Park System.

Issues that arise from allowing pets into athletic complexes include:

- Animal waste on the playing fields,
- Owners letting their dogs off leash, intimidating participants and spectators,
- Dog owners tying animals to the fence line while they play, creating excessive barking by the animal.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

VOTING REQUIREMENTS: Majority of Council (5)

Disclaimer: Voting requirements may be subject to changes in the law, parliamentary procedural matters, or other unforeseen issues. The City Attorney provides opinion on questions of voting requirements in accordance with the Moorhead City Code, Minnesota State Statutes, and parliamentary procedure.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Redlinger", written in a cursive style.

Michael J. Redlinger
City Manager

Department: Community Services
Prepared by: Holly Heitkamp, Recreation Division Manager
Attachments: Draft Ordinance