Village of HARRISON
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VILLAGE BOARD MEETING **VILLAGE OF HARRISON**

From:
Chad Pelishek, Village Manager

Meeting Date:
September 29, 2026

Title:
Firelane 8 Terminus: Designated Park- Dogs Allowed

Recommended Action:

Suggested Motion — Allow Dogs
Motion to permit dogs at the Firelane 8 Lake Winnebago road terminus, subject to all applicable Village animal-control, leash, and waste-removal ordinances/requirements, and to direct staff not to install "No Dogs" signs at this time.

Suggested Motion — Prohibit Dogs
Motion to prohibit dogs at the Firelane 8 Lake Winnebago road terminus, direct staff to install appropriate "No Dogs" signage, and direct staff to prepare any necessary ordinance or policy documentation to support the restriction and enforcement.

Background and Additional Information:
When Harrison operated as a Town, the Firelane 8 terminus at Lake Winnebago was reportedly designated as a No Dogs location. Village staff have searched available Town and Village records for a formal approval, ordinance provision, resolution, meeting minutes, or other documentation establishing that restriction. To date, staff have not identified records supporting the prior designation.

Earlier this year, a request was made by a resident to be able to walk her leashed dog to the terminus to swim in the lake. At that time, the decision was made to remove the No Dogs sign as terminus was not a designated park.

Conversely, neighboring property owners have requested that the Village re-install "No Dogs" signs consistent with the prior understanding of the location.

The Firelane 8 terminus provides public access to Lake Winnebago. It is a road terminus/right-of-way access point and is not designated as a Village park.

Village practice generally prohibits dogs in park areas except where specifically allowed. Because this location is not a park, the general park restriction may not directly apply. In the absence of a documented Board action or applicable ordinance specifically restricting dogs at this road terminus, staff is requesting Board direction before re-installing signs or enforcing a site-specific prohibition.

Staff recommends that the Village Board establish a clear policy through formal action. If the Board wishes to prohibit dogs, staff recommends adopting a site-specific restriction and directing installation of signs, rather than relying solely on an undocumented historical practice.

If the Board wishes to allow dogs, staff recommends that use remain subject to all applicable Village animal-control requirements, including leash and waste-removal requirements, and that staff monitor the location for operational or neighbor-impact issues.