

Public Safety Committee,

I come to you asking to uphold and enforce the Vicious Animal Ordinance in Oelwein. I would like to let you know how this has affected our family and how everything has happened from my perspective.

Here is the timeline on my end

- Monday April 19—I dropped Poppy off at daycare. (Madix is at school Monday, only Poppy went Mondays) At dinner that night Robin asked if Megan Rex and Masons dog was at daycare when I dropped Poppy off because it was there when she picked our daughter Poppy up. I said I was not aware of a new dog. Robin said she expressed concern but was reassured by Amanda that this was a “Loving Dog” and we had nothing to worry about and it would be living there until Mason and Megan got their own place in town.
- Tuesday April 20—I dropped Madix our 4-year-old and Poppy our 1-year-old at daycare. Upon entering the dog did growl at me but the house was busy that morning and I let it go. I called Robin during the day and expressed my concern about the dog growling. Around 3:15 I get a call at work from my wife who was frantic and crying telling me Madix was attacked by Megan’s dog. Meanwhile all I can hear is Madix screaming in the background. I told Robin to meet me at home and I left work for the day. I came home to Madix sobbing sitting on the counter not letting Robin take his pants off which had holes ripped in them and were bloody. Once we got his pants off, we found his left thigh severely bruised with puncture holes from the dog’s teeth bleeding, his right knee was bruised and had 3 puncture holes, his right ankle was bruised all the way around and punctured.

We determined the wounds needed to be treated so we took Madix to urgent care where his wounds were cleaned with betadine and an antibiotic was applied. He was also prescribed and antibiotic to keep the deep punctures from becoming infected.

- Wednesday April 21—We made arrangements for my mom who lives in Oelwein near the middle school to keep the kids as we found a new daycare.
- Thursday April 22—Poppy goes to my moms for the day. Around lunch time I stop by to check on Poppy and see Mason Kunkle (Megan Rex’s Boyfriend) with the dog that 2 days previous had attacked my 4-year-old, in the back yard. I was instantly upset and confronted Mason about the dog who had just attacked being in town in a neighborhood full of children. I expressed to Mason I felt the dog was dangerous and should be put down. He said that was not going to happen and the dog had a rough life. (I will attach a screen shot of a text from mason stating “I think she was beat and treated badly so she is messed up”)

Since this encounter my 4-year-old has insisted he not go back to daycare for fear of being attacked by a dog. Every time he sees a large dog, he is instantly afraid and asks if that dog is there to hurt him. This is something he is going to live with for years to come. It has been a month now and the bruises are still there, the puncture holes still have not fully healed. We thank God that it was his legs and not his face.

The City has an ordinance against Vicious animals for a reason, to protect the people and children who live here.

Please vote to protect the citizens of the city so no one else has to go thru what we have for the last month or god forbid it happens next time and is worse.

Thank You,
Josh Irvine