

ORDINANCE No. 2072  
AN ORDINANCE CREATING CHAPTER 2.73 LAKE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Common Council of the City of Whitewater, Walworth and Jefferson Counties, Wisconsin, do ordain as follows:

SECTION 1. Whitewater Municipal Code Chapter 2.73 is hereby created to read as follows:

2.73.010 – Lake Advisory Committee

**Lake Advisory Committee**

**Mission Statement:** The Lake Advisory Committee is dedicated to preserving and enhancing the health, beauty, and recreational value of the lakes within the City of Whitewater. We strive to provide recommendations and guidance to local authorities, engage the community in lake-related activities, and promote responsible stewardship of our natural resources.

**Committee Goals and Objectives:**

1. **Lake Health and Water Quality:** Monitor and assess the water quality of local lakes, identify potential threats to their health, and recommend actions to maintain or improve water quality.
2. **Ecosystem Preservation:** Work to protect and restore the natural ecosystems in and around Whitewater's lakes, ensuring the long-term health of local flora and fauna.
3. **Recreational Opportunities:** Encourage safe and accessible recreational opportunities on Whitewater's lakes, including swimming, boating, fishing, and wildlife observation.
4. **Community Engagement:** Foster community awareness and involvement in lake-related issues through educational programs, outreach, and public events.
5. **Policy and Planning:** Collaborate with local government and authorities to develop and recommend policies, ordinances, and plans that promote the sustainable management of lakes and their watersheds.
6. **Research and Data Collection:** Conduct or support research and data collection efforts to better understand lake ecosystems and trends, aiding informed decision-making.

**Committee Membership:** The Lake Advisory Committee shall consist of up to 5 members and no less than 3 members. There shall be one alternate member appointed to serve. In the event one of the regular members is unable to attend, then the alternate member shall be called upon to attend and shall have full power to act and vote. The city manager and the common council president

shall review the committee applicants and recommend nominees to the common council. After considering the candidates nominated by the city manager and common council president, the common council shall appoint the members of the committee. Members should represent diverse backgrounds, including but not limited to residents, environmental experts, local business owners, and recreational enthusiasts.

**Eligibility:** To be eligible for membership on the Lake Advisory Committee, an individual must be a resident of the City of Whitewater or have expertise related to lake preservation and enhancement.

**Meetings:** The committee shall meet on a regular basis, at least once every two months, to discuss ongoing projects, reports, and lake-related issues. Meetings will be open to the public, and citizens are encouraged to attend and participate.

**Committee Chair:** The Committee members will select a Chairperson from among themselves to lead meetings, coordinate activities, and act as the primary liaison with city officials.

**Reporting:** The Lake Advisory Committee shall deliver semi-annual updates and reports to the Common Council, sharing information about its activities, findings, and recommendations. If necessary, the Committee may also provide additional updates to the Common Council. These reports will be accessible to the public through the city's website and other communication channels.

**Community Partnerships:** The Committee shall seek opportunities to collaborate with local organizations, schools, and other stakeholders interested in lake conservation and education.

**Term Length:** Committee members shall serve staggered terms of three years each, with the possibility of reappointment for up to two additional terms.

**Inaugural Meeting:** The inaugural meeting of the Lake Advisory Committee shall be scheduled within 30 days of the appointment of its initial members.

**Amendment and Review:** This charter may be amended as needed with the approval of the Common Council. It will be reviewed periodically to ensure its continued effectiveness in achieving its goals and objectives.

Ordinance introduced by Council Member Allen, who moved its adoption.

Seconded by Council Member Brown.

AYES: Allen, Brown, Dawsey Smith, Hicks, Gerber, Stone, Schreiber

NOES:

ABSENT:

ADOPTED: October 3, 2023

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John Weidl, City Manager

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Karri Anderberg, City Clerk