

ORDINANCE #26-04

ADOPTING SECTION 10-12, DE PERE MUNICIPAL CODE,
CREATING THE DE PERE YOUTH COMMISSION

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DE PERE, WISCONSIN DOES ORDAIN AS
FOLLOWS:

Section 1: Sec. 10-12, De Pere Municipal Code is hereby created to read:

10-12. – De Pere Youth Commission.

- (a) *Purpose.* The De Pere Youth Commission is hereby established for the City of De Pere. The purpose of the De Pere Youth Commission shall be to provide a formal mechanism for youth engagement in municipal government, foster leadership development, and promote civic responsibility among youth. The Commission shall advise the Common Council and City departments on issues affecting youth and assist in the development of programs and initiatives that enhance the quality of life for young residents.
- (b) *Membership.* The Commission shall be comprised of at least seven (7) but not more than fifteen (15) members, who are students between the ages of 14 and 18 and reside in the City of De Pere or attend school in either the Unified School District of De Pere or the School District of West De Pere. The Mayor shall appoint the Commission members, subject to confirmation by the Common Council, which shall be selected through an application process, conducted by a selection committee designated by the Mayor. In the event the number of applicants exceeds the number of available member positions for any given term, a priority shall be given to applicants residing in the City of De Pere. Terms shall be for one (1) year, beginning the 4th Wednesday of May of each year. Thereafter, members may be reappointed through High School Senior Graduation. The Common Council may designate one or more Alders to serve as Council Liaisons to the Commission for such terms as determined by council.
- (c) *Officers, Meetings.* At the start of each term, the Commission shall elect a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary from among its members by majority vote. The Chair shall preside at meetings of the Commission and shall have the right to vote. The Vice-Chair shall, in case of absence or disability of the Chair, perform the duties of the Chair. The Secretary shall keep records of each meeting by taking minutes, showing all actions taken and recommendations made. A copy of such minutes shall be filed with the City Clerk. The Commission shall meet not less than monthly and may hold additional meeting as it deems necessary. A majority of the Commission's members shall constitute a quorum.

(d) *Rules and Procedures.* The Commission may adopt rules and bylaws, not inconsistent herewith, for the transaction of business. The rules of parliamentary practice comprised in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the Commission in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with rules contained in this chapter or adopted by the Commission.

(e) *Powers and Duties.* The Commission shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Common Council and other City departments on matters affecting youth in the City of De Pere. The Commission shall:

- (1) Report annually to the Common Council, or more frequently as requested, on its activities, findings, and recommendations.
- (2) Advise the Common Council on policies, programs, and initiatives that impact youth within the City.
- (3) Promote public interest in and understanding of youth issues and activities within the City of De Pere.
- (4) Foster youth involvement in municipal decision-making by creating forums or focus groups that allow youth to raise issues and provide input to the Common Council, City departments, and influence policy formulation.
- (5) Encourage cooperation and interaction among social, health, and recreational programs offered by the City, including collaboration with teen advisors from the Park Board and Sustainability Commission.
- (6) Develop realistic goals and measurable outcomes aimed at improving conditions and prospects for youth in the City, including the creation of methodologies to monitor progress toward achieving these improvements.

Section 2. The current sections of Chapter 10 of this Code are hereby renumbered as follows:

1. Section 10-12, Dual Citizen Membership on Boards and Commissions, is renumbered as Section 10-13;
2. Section 10-13, Code of Ethics, is renumbered as Section 10-14;
3. Section 10-14, Public Records, is renumbered as Section 10-15;
4. Section 10-15, Continuity of Government, is renumbered as Section 10-16.

Section 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication.

Adopted by the Common Council of the City of De Pere, Wisconsin, this 20th day of January, 2026.

APPROVED:

James G. Boyd, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carey E. Danen, City Clerk

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

Board/Committee Approval: 01/13/2026

Publication Date: 1/23/26

Effective Date: 1/24/26