

ORDINANCE NO. {{item.sequential_number}}

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TEMPLE, TEXAS, APPROVING THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT'S YOUTH PROGRAMS STANDARDS OF CARE; APPROVING THE 2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT; AND PROVIDING AN OPEN MEETINGS CLAUSE.

Whereas, the City of Temple's Parks and Recreation Department operates an after-school recreational program known as "The Zone" at multiple local school campuses - under Section 42.041(b)(14) of the Texas Human Resources Code, an elementary-age (ages 5 to 13) recreation program operated by a municipality is exempt from State childcare licensing requirements so long as certain conditions are met;

Whereas, in order to qualify as an exempt youth recreation program, a municipality must annually adopt standards of care by ordinance after a public hearing for such programs - the standards of care must be provided to the parents of each program participant, the parents of participants must be informed that the program is not licensed by the State, and the program may not be advertised as a childcare facility;

Whereas, the ordinance must include, at a minimum, staffing ratios, minimum staff qualifications, minimum facility, health, and safety standards, and mechanisms for monitoring and enforcing the adopted local standards - some of the key elements of the City of Temple's Youth Programs Standards of Care include defining participant age, ensuring prospective program employees have completed a criminal background check, providing training to new employees (including orientation, first aid, and CPR), identifying standards of when to notify parents, and establishing program adult-to-child ratios;

Whereas, the Parks and Recreation Department is required each year to review the previous year's after-school and camp programs and develop an annual report, including any recommendations of change to the Standards of Care - Staff is not recommending any changes to the Standards of Care for the upcoming year;

Whereas, in order to continue to be exempt from the State's childcare licensing requirements, the Parks and Recreation Department is required to bring the Standards of Care to Council for adoption by ordinance annually;

Whereas, Staff recommends Council adopt the Parks and Recreation Department's Youth Programs Standards of Care as well as approve the 2024-2025 annual report; and

Whereas, the City Council has considered these matters and deems it in the public interest to authorize these actions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TEMPLE, TEXAS, THAT:

Part 1: Findings. All of the above premises are hereby found to be true and correct legislative and factual findings of the City Council of the City of Temple, Texas, and they are hereby approved and incorporated into the body of this Ordinance as if copied in their entirety.

Part 2: The City Council approves the City of Temple Parks and Recreation Department's Youth Programs Standards of Care, attached hereto and incorporated herein for all purposes as Exhibit A.

Part 3: The City Council approves the 2024-2025 Child Care Standards Annual Report, attached hereto and incorporated herein for all purposes as Exhibit B.

Part 4: It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Ordinance was passed was open to the public as required and that public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act.

PASSED AND APPROVED on First Reading and Public Hearing on the **18th** day of **July, 2024.**

PASSED AND APPROVED on Second and Final Reading on the **1st** day of **August, 2024.**

THE CITY OF TEMPLE, TEXAS

TIMOTHY A. DAVIS, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Jana Lewellen
City Secretary

Kathryn H. Davis
City Attorney