

City of Blair, Nebraska

Policy for Reserving of Park Shelters and the Depot in the Park

Effective ~~August 1, 2019~~ April 1, 2025

Park Department – 402-533-8589

This policy shall govern the charges and use of all the Parks and Park facilities within the City of Blair, Nebraska, including but not limited to Black Elk-Neihardt Park, Lions Park, Steyer Park, Rhoades Park, Ridgeview Park, Rich Warrick Memorial Park, Stemmermann Park, Optimist Park, and Bob Hardy RV Park (camp grounds).

- A. All parks, park equipment and park facilities shall be available for use by the public on a first come, first serve basis for non-commercial use at no charge except as listed in G. below.
- B. All parks and park facilities shall always be alcohol free, except as exempted in C. below. Anyone possessing or consuming alcohol in the parks and park facilities shall be prosecuted per the City of Blair municipal code, unless exempted in C. of this policy.
- C. Possession of alcohol in Optimist Park shall be permitted only for purposes of transporting from vehicle(s) to boat for boat launching. Consumption of alcohol in Optimist Park shall always be prohibited.
- D. All parks and park facilities shall be non-smoking.
- E. Guns in the City of Blair parks shall be governed by the Blair City Code. Signs shall be posted prohibiting open carry in City Parks, except as exempted in (F) of this policy.
- F. Open carry in Optimist Park shall be permitted only for purposes of transporting guns from vehicle(s) to boat for boat launching.
- G. The following park shelters and/or park areas may be reserved by paying the fees as outlined in the attached **Exhibit A – Parks Fees and Charges**.
 - Reservations shall be limited to the end of the month one year in advance, except for use by the City or by the Chamber of Commerce for the annual Community Celebration.
 - Shelters and The Depot in the Park must be reserved a minimum of two days in advance of an event to allow City Parks Staff to post the reservation. Otherwise, usage will remain on a first come, first serve basis. The Depot in the Park is only available by reservation.
 - **The deposit will automatically be forfeited for any party that does not pick up the key at City Hall on Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and requires special accommodation from the Park Department Staff to obtain the key after hours.**

- Reservations shall be subject to rates in place as of the date of the usage, as amended from time to time by the Blair City Council. (Upon adoption of this policy, the City will honor all reservations scheduled prior to April 1, ~~2019~~ 2025)

Black Elk-Neihardt Park – The large shelter may be reserved. Areas outside the shelter remain open and available for use by the public.

Lions Park: Depot in the Park, Main Shelter and Park Area (for non-commercial uses and for use by non-profit, public or community organizations) – The Depot in the Park and the main shelter located in northwest area of the park may be reserved. Areas off the deck of The Depot and outside the shelter remain open and available for use by the public.

- Temporary banners and/or signs may be put up immediately adjacent to the shelter or on the deck of The Depot during the time of the event, but nowhere else in the park.

Lions Park: Depot in the Park, Main Shelter and Park Area (for commercial uses*) – The Depot in the Park, the main shelter located in northwest area of the park, and the park area between The Depot and the main shelter may be reserved for commercial events. All play equipment, areas surrounding the play equipment, and the remaining areas off the deck of The Depot and in the park remain open and available for use by the public.

- Temporary banners and/or signs may be put up immediately adjacent to the shelter or on the deck of The Depot during the time of the event, but nowhere else in the park.

Steyer Park – The lower main shelter may be reserved.

Hardy RV Park – RV camper pads and tent camping areas are available on a first come, first serve basis (no reservations). Rentals are limited to fourteen (14) consecutive nights per stay. Each stay must be separated by minimum of fourteen (14) nights. **(The nights per stay may be extended by the City Administrator upon request if extra nights are for purposes of medical, dental care, caring for family members, and visiting of relatives in the community.)** Note: The stay limit is not enforced from November 1 - April 1 but the park will have no water available, and there will be no reduced rates."

* "Commercial uses" shall be defined as any individual, group or business reserving for an event for the purpose of selling, displaying, promoting, providing or marketing goods or services to

make a financial profit. Service clubs and non-profit organizations holding fundraising events shall not be considered “commercial use”.