



AGENDA INFORMATION
TIFFIN CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE:	February 11, 2026
AGENDA ITEM:	Resolution No. 2026-009 A Resolution Adjusting the Annual Pet Registration Fees and the Annual Dog Park Pass Fees for the City of Tiffin, Iowa
ACTION:	Motion

Purpose

The purpose of this item is to update the City of Tiffin’s annual pet registration fees and annual dog park pass fees. These changes are intended to encourage responsible pet ownership within the community, and bring Tiffin’s pet-related fees into alignment with those charged by other municipalities in the region.

Background

The City of Tiffin currently requires annual registration for all dogs and cats within city limits. The current fee structure is a flat \$10 per pet per year, regardless of the animal’s sterilization status. Additionally, Tiffin offers annual dog park passes, though existing fees are lower than many neighboring communities.

As Tiffin continues to grow, staff has evaluated opportunities to support responsible pet ownership, promote compliance with local ordinances, and ensure equitable cost recovery for infrastructure such as the dog park. A tiered fee structure based on sterilization status is widely used across Iowa communities and has been shown to encourage spay/neuter practices.

Proposed Fee Changes

Current fee: \$10 per pet per year

Proposed tiered structure:

- Altered (spayed/neutered) pets: \$15/pet per year
- Unaltered pets: \$30/pet per year

Adding a Late Fee:

- Delinquency Fee: \$10/pet
- Currently there is no fee for being late.

This encourages responsible pet ownership and reduces overpopulation. Aligns Tiffin with common regional practices that differentiate fees based on sterilization. Balances affordability with program cost recovery.

Annual Dog Park Pass Fees

The current fees are a flat rate of \$5.00 per pet annually for Tiffin residents and non-residents.

Proposed fees:

- Tiffin Residents: \$10 per dog per year
- Non-Residents: \$25 per dog per year

This change adjusts fees to be comparable with surrounding communities and reflects the value of maintaining a clean, safe, and functional dog park. It also ensures non-resident users contribute fairly to facility upkeep.

The updated fee structure is expected to modestly increase revenue for animal control, dog park maintenance, and administrative needs. Improve compliance by encouraging spay/neuter, reducing long-term animal control costs (lost pets, overpopulation, etc.). Better reflect the true cost of maintaining pet-related services within the City.

Recommendation

Staff recommend that the City Council approve the proposed changes to the annual pet registration and dog park pass fee structure, effective for the upcoming licensing year.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-009

A RESOLUTION ADJUSTING THE ANNUAL PET REGISTRATION FEES AND THE ANNUAL DOG PARK PASS FEES FOR THE CITY OF TIFFIN, IOWA

Whereas, the City of Tiffin requires annual registration of dogs and cats to promote responsible pet ownership, ensure rabies vaccination compliance, and support public health and safety; and

Whereas, according to Tiffin City Code Chapter 56.02 (License Fees), the annual pet license fee shall be established by resolution of the City Council; and

Whereas, the City's current annual pet registration fee is a flat \$10 per pet per year, regardless of sterilization status; and

Whereas, implementing a tiered fee structure for altered and unaltered pets is a common and effective municipal practice used to encourage spaying and neutering, reduce pet overpopulation, and promote responsible pet care; and

Whereas, the City also offers annual dog park passes, and current fees are below those charged in neighboring communities; and

Whereas, updating dog park pass fees will help bring Tiffin's rates into alignment with surrounding jurisdictions and support the ongoing maintenance, safety, and improvement of the City's dog park facilities; and

Whereas, the City Council finds it in the best interest of the community to adjust the fee structure to promote responsible ownership, improve cost recovery, and ensure sustainability of pet-related services.

Now, therefore be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Tiffin, Iowa, that the following fee schedule is hereby adopted:

1. Annual Pet Registration Fees (Effective 7/1/2026)
 - a. Altered (Spayed/Neutered) pet: \$15/pet
 - b. Unaltered pet: \$30/pet
 - c. Late Registration Fee: \$10/pet
2. Annual Dog Park Pass Fees (Effective 7/1/2026)
 - a. Tiffin Residents: \$10/dog
 - b. Non-Residents: \$25/dog

On the 17th day of February, 2026, at a regular meeting of the Tiffin City Council, Tiffin, Iowa, Councilperson ____ introduced **RESOLUTION NO. 2026-009 A Resolution Adjusting the Annual Pet Registration Fees and the Annual Dog Park Pass Fees for the City of Tiffin, Iowa** and made a motion for approval. Motion seconded by Councilperson ____.

Ayes:
Nays:
Absent:

Whereupon _____ Council members were present and voted approval and Mayor Kasperek declared that the **RESOLUTION NO. 2026-009 A Resolution Adjusting the Annual Pet Registration Fees and the Annual Dog Park Pass Fees for the City of Tiffin, Iowa** , to be adopted and signified his approval of the same by affixing his signature thereto.

Passed by the City Council on the 17th day of February, 2026.

City of Tiffin

Tim Kasperek, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Abigail Hora, City Clerk