

Councilmember _____ introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION # 26-040

RESOLUTION APPROVING A ROSTER OF QUALIFIED HEARING OFFICERS FOR DANGEROUS AND POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS DOG APPEAL HEARINGS

WHEREAS, Minnesota State Statute § 347.53 authorizes municipalities to regulate dangerous and potentially dangerous dogs; and

WHEREAS, City of Ramsey Ordinance 10-66 establishes a hearing process for owners of dogs deemed dangerous or potentially dangerous and requires that a hearing officer conduct such hearings; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota State Statute § 347.541 requires that dog owners be afforded an opportunity for a hearing to appeal a dangerous dog designation; and

WHEREAS, dangerous or potentially dangerous dog appeal hearings do not occur frequently; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to ensure that such hearings are conducted in a fair, impartial, timely, and legally defensible manner by qualified independent hearing officers; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that approving a roster of qualified hearing officers provides flexibility, efficiency, and continuity while reducing the risk of delay or conflict of interest;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RAMSEY, ANOKA COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, as follows:

1. The City Council approves a roster of qualified hearing officers to conduct dangerous and potentially dangerous dog appeal hearings pursuant to City Code Section 10-66 and Minnesota Statutes, as set forth in **Exhibit A**, which is attached.
2. The hearing officers approved on the roster shall serve as independent contractors and shall not be considered employees of the City for any purpose.
3. The City Administrator, Chief of Police, or their designee is authorized to assign an available hearing officer from the approved roster to a particular appeal hearing as needed, without further action by the City Council.
4. Appeal hearings may be conducted in person or by remote electronic means, including videoconference platforms, when determined appropriate by the City, provided that due process requirements are satisfied.
5. Approval of the roster does not guarantee any minimum number of hearings or compensation to any hearing officer, or limit the number of hearing officers that may be on the list.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember _____, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

and the following voted against the same:

and the following abstained:

and the following were absent:

Whereupon said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted by the Ramsey City Council this the 10th day of February, 2026.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Exhibit A – Approved Dangerous Dog Hearing Officer Roster

Scott C. Baumgartner

Attorney at law with BBG Law in Anoka. Serves as a hearing officer for other cities and has 25 years of experience, primarily in municipal law. Scott also serves as the criminal prosecutor or supervising prosecuting attorney for the cities of Andover, Anoka, Oak Grove, Elk River, Buffalo, and Annandale.

Keith Streff

Retired as the Principal Humane Agent with the Animal Humane Society after working there for 25 years. Also worked for several law enforcement agencies and assisted with legislative testimony on numerous bills that regulate pet and companion animals to promote public safety.