

ORDINANCE NO. 87-2025

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CHAPTER 26 “BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE” OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF PALO, IOWA

SECTION I. PURPOSE. The purpose of this ordinance is to establish a Beautification Committee to assist City personnel in identifying and prioritizing areas within the City of Palo that would benefit from beautification efforts and to propose plans and recommendations that reflect and enhance the unique history, character, and geography of the City of Palo and the surrounding area.

SECTION II. CHAPTER ADDED. The following reflects an entirely new chapter of the Palo Code or Ordinances and therefore no struck through or underlined language is included.

CHAPTER 26

26.01. PURPOSE.

The City of Palo hereby establishes a Beautification Committee to serve in an advisory capacity to the City Council. The Beautification Committee shall provide recommendations on matters related to beautification and aesthetic improvements to the City of Palo outside of the traditional parks and recreations areas handled by the City’s Parks and Recreation Board.

26.02. ORGANIZATION.

1. The Beautification Committee, hereafter referred to as the Committee shall consist of five (5) members, residents of the City and at least 18 years of age, appointed by the Mayor, with the approval of the Council. All members shall serve without compensation but may receive reimbursement for expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

2. The Public Works Director is designated to serve as liaison to advise the Committee and communicate with the City Council and the Mayor on the activities of the Committee.

26.03. TERM OF OFFICE.

The term of office of the members of the Committee shall be five (5) years. Initial appointments may be made for one (1), two (2), or three (3) year terms to allow for staggered turnover. Members may be reappointed and serve at the pleasure of the City Council.

26.04. VACANCIES.

If any vacancy exists on the Committee, caused by resignation or otherwise, a successor for the residue of the term shall be appointed in the same manner as the original appointee.

26.05. MEETINGS AND OFFICERS.

1. The Committee shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson from among its members annually. The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings; the Vice-Chairperson shall act in the absence of the Chairperson.
2. The Committee shall meet at least quarterly and at such other times as determined by the Chairperson or upon request of the Mayor or City Council. All meetings shall be open to the public and comply with Iowa's Open Meetings Law.
3. A majority of the Committee members shall constitute a quorum. No official action shall be taken without a quorum.
4. Minutes of all meetings shall be maintained and provided to the City Clerk for transmission to the City Council.

26.05. POWERS AND DUTIES.

The Beautification Committee shall have the following duties:

1. To make recommendations to the City Council and City staff regarding beautification, aesthetic, and general appearance improvements throughout the City.
2. To identify priorities for beautification efforts and establish clear, achievable goals that align with the City's long-term vision and resources.
3. To prepare plans and proposals for beautification projects, including suggested materials, plantings, design elements, or community engagement initiatives, for review and approval by the City Council.
4. Collaborate with City staff and other committees to evaluate the Beautification impacts of residential, commercial, and industrial development. Provide recommendations to ensure Beautification systems are aligned with the City's comprehensive plans.
5. To encourage community participation and foster civic pride through volunteer efforts, partnerships, and public education related to beautification.
6. Work in partnership with the City's Parks and Recreation Board when appropriate to coordinate beautification efforts that also impact City owned parks, playgrounds and recreational areas.

SECTION III. REPEALER. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION IV. SEVERABILITY. If any section, provision or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision, or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION V. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall be in effect after its final passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 17th day of November 2025.



Eric VanKerckhove, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jennifer Fencl, City Clerk

First Reading: 11-17-2025

Second Reading: 11-17-2025

Third Reading: 11-17-2025

Final Approval Given: 11-17-2025

I certify that the foregoing was published as Ordinance No. 87-2025 on November 19th, 2025



Jennifer Fencl, City Clerk