



BLACK RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CITY OF BLACK RIVER FALLS SEX OFFENDER RESIDENCY ORDINANCE CITY OF BLACK RIVER FALLS, JACKSON COUNTY, WISCONSIN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the City of Black River Falls Common Council will hold a public hearing to seek community input on the need for a potential ordinance that would establish residency restrictions for registered sex offenders.

The hearing is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 6, 2025** beginning at **6:30pm** and will be held in the Council Chambers at City Hall located at 101 S. Second Street, Black River Falls, WI.

A sex offender residency ordinance would address public safety concerns by potentially restricting where certain registered sex offenders may reside within the City of Black River Falls.

The Council is seeking input from city residents, local businesses, local organizations, and other interested stakeholders.

This public hearing is an opportunity for community members to voice their support, concerns, or suggestions.

Written comments may also be submitted in advance of the hearing to the City Administrator at city.admin@blackriverfallswi.gov or comments may be mailed or delivered to City Hall at 101. S. Second Street, Black River Falls, WI 54615.

Dated this 30th day of April, 2025.

A. Brad Chown
City Administrator / Clerk
City of Black River Falls

City of Black River Falls
Public Hearing
Sex Offender Residency Regulation

Tuesday – May 6, 2025 – 6:30 PM

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Open public hearing – Mayor
4. Close public hearing – Action
5. Adjourn

PUBLIC HEARING

**Comments / Emails received prior to the
public hearing**

From: Debbie Lakowske <lkwsk_dbb@yahoo.com>
Date: May 5, 2025 at 9:16:36 PM CDT
To: Brad Chown <brad.chown@blackriverfallswi.gov>
Cc: lkwsk_dbb@yahoo.com
Subject: Restrictions on sexual offenders in BRF

Please add my name to the list of residents that are requesting restrictions on sex offenders living in the city. Please don't wait for it to get personal before taking action. It's embarrassing to be a resident of Black River Falls anymore. The city has really gone downhill and seems to be getting trashier by the week.

Please take notice of the number of people speaking up. If the negligence continues, the city will only draw in more of the offenders. Word is getting out. Will anyone want to relocate here? Will the locals stay when no one is paying attention to how bad things are getting?

Please take this issue seriously and do what is best for our community.

Debbie Lakowske
Lkwsk_dbb@yahoo.com

From: Beth Bue <snoball.bue65@gmail.com>

Date: May 6, 2025 at 8:25:20 AM CDT

To: Brad Chown <brad.chown@blackriverfallswi.gov>

Subject: May 6 meeting

To whom it may concern:

I am unable to attend the meeting tonight about keeping our kiddos safe in our community, however would like to share my concerns. I own an in home childcare center and several registered sex offenders live within blocks of me. That is a concern, several times I have seen them walk by my center wondering if they have changed or "checking out" the area. In my opinion parks, schools, in home childcare centers, group childcare centers should NOT have sex offenders within so many blocks. I no longer take walks or go to the parks alone with the kiddos unsure if their safety. I hope my voice will be heard.

Thanks

Beth Bue

Brad Chown

From: tyson clarke <tyson.clarke@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 3:26 PM
To: Brad Chown
Subject: Subject: A Simple Question About Safety, Sex offenders, and BRF Arcade.

Hi,

Sorry I couldn't attend — I'll keep this short.

I started BRF Arcade after the movie theater closed, because kids in our town had nowhere safe to go. I made admission a day pass so I could keep it that way — supervised, kid-friendly, and secure.

Here's the point:

If the arcade allowed anyone inside — including convicted sex offenders — would you let your child, niece, nephew, or grandchild go there alone?

It's not a rhetorical question.

Roughly **1 in 4 sex offenders reoffend within 15 years** — and we don't know which ones until it's too late. Their victims are overwhelmingly women and children.

If the choice is between protecting kids or preserving the freedoms of convicted sex offenders, the answer is obvious: They can live in some other town that places the freedoms of sex offenders above the importance of consent for women, and the sexual innocence of children.

If you oppose legislation meant to safeguard women and children from known predators, just know this — local outlets like the *Jackson County Pulse* will make sure those actions don't go unnoticed. We will all know.

This is an easy line to draw. Protect the innocent — not those who've already made their choice.

Best,

Tyson Clarke

Founder, BRF Arcade & Social Skills Arcade (501c3)