

**CITY OF WARD
ORDINANCE O-2023-20**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A TEMPORARY RECREATIONAL VEHICLE (RV) AND
CAMPING AREA WITHIN THE CITY OF WARD SPORTS COMPLEX; TO ESTABLISH
PERMITTING AND RESERVATION PROCESS; TO ESTABLISH A FEE STRUCTURE; WAIVING
THE PROVISIONS OF ORDINANCE 2009-01; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, THE GREAT AMERICAN ECLIPSE will occur April 8, 2024 and the City of Ward is within the Path of Totality; and,

WHEREAS, it is estimated that Central Arkansas will have a million or more visitors to the area and that each city within the Path of Totality could experience a temporary population growth of two to four time our normal population;

WHEREAS, THE CITY OF WARD, in making plans for this once-in-a-lifetime event, the city desires to establish a temporary RV Park at the Ward Sports Complex.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WARD, ARKANSAS THAT:

SECTION 1: The Mayor is hereby authorized to create a temporary RV/Camping park within the City of Ward Sports Complex – hereafter this event to be called the “Park for the Dark.”

SECTION 2: The Mayor will ensure that adequate plans and procedures are created to manage the event and will ensure adequate funds are appropriated in appropriate 2024 budgets.

SECTION 3 – PERMITS REQUIRED: The Mayor will ensure an adequate permitting procedure is established to ensure only registered vehicles and/or camping sites are allowed to park and/or camp within the Sports Complex.

SECTION 4 – FEES: The Mayor is hereby authorized to develop a fee structure for the event to ensure adequate revenue to help off-set the cost of the event. Examples of such fees include but not limited to the following:

- a. RV Parking
- b. Camping Spot
- c. Others Fees as needed

SECTION 5 – ORDINANCE 2009-01: Any and all provisions in City of Ward Ordinance 2009-01 are hereby waived for the duration of this Ordinance.

SECTION 6 – EXPIRATION: This Ordinance expires at the end of the business day, April 12, 2024, unless otherwise extended by the Ward City Council.

SECTION 7 – SEVERABILITY: If, for any reason, any portion or portions of this ordinance shall be held invalid, such invalidity shall in no way affect the remaining portions.

SECTION 8 – EMERGENCY CLAUSE: It has been determined by the Governing Body of the City of Ward, that an emergency exists in this situation so as to establish plans and procedures for this event sooner, rather than later.

SAID ORDINANCE WAS ADOPTED ON 9-18-23.

YEAS: 4 NAYS: 2

APPROVED:



Charles Gastineau, Mayor

ATTEST:



Krystal Rummel, City Clerk