

MEMORANDUM

P.O. Box 4100 ◆ Frisco, Colorado 80443

TO: MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL

FROM: JEFF DURBIN, INTERIM TOWN MANAGER

RE: IGA REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FIRE RESTRICTIONS IN SUMMIT COUNTY

COLORADO

DATE: JUNE 22, 2021

Summary and Background:

Summit County and all the municipalities have previously entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) regarding implementation of fire restrictions. It details how the County would implement restrictions and when that occurs, the municipalities agree to consider implementing restrictions as well.

Summit County has proposed amendments to the IGA. The Town Attorney has reviewed the IGA and prepared amendments to the Town Code in accordance with the proposed IGA.

Analysis:

Implementing fire restrictions is most effective when consistent restrictions are enacted in a geographic area across all jurisdictions. However, as you saw last week, sometimes conditions are very different across a large geographic area. Accordingly, both the current and proposed IGAs neither require nor prevent Frisco taking action autonomously.

Comments regarding the IGA from the Town Attorney:

I've taken a look at our existing versus proposed code language regarding the fire restrictions. There are plenty of changes in the way that the regulations are presented and in some terminology, but in terms of true substantive changes, I identify but three (or four, depending on how you want to count them).

The first is the requirement that when using a chainsaw, in addition to the already required fire extinguisher being on hand, one's saw must be equipped with a spark arrestor, and you must have a round point shovel on hand of not less that 35" in length.

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Second is the requirement in Stage 1 for a permit from the fire district for an solid fuel burning fire. The standards for the allowance of such fires remain the same (barren ground, chiminea or other spark arresting fire ring, or commercial fireplace or the like, and adult supervision, etc).

Third is the removal of the prohibition, during Stage 2 restrictions, of the sale of firewood and charcoal.

Financial Impact:

There is no financial impact of the proposed IGA or code amendments.

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

While an argument could be made about alignment with the Strategic Plan, this is really about public safety and coordination with other local governments.

Environmental Sustainability:

NA

Staff Recommendation:

Staff would recommend approval of both the IGA and the amendments to the Town Code.

Approved By:

Jeff Durbin, Interim Town Manager

Attachments: