



MEMORANDUM

P.O. Box 4100 ♦ FRISCO, COLORADO 80443

TO: MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
FROM: RICK WEINMAN, BUILDING OFFICIAL
RE: ORDINANCE 21-10, AMENDMENTS TO THE 2018 INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE
DATE: AUGUST 10, 2021

Summary and Background: This is first reading of Ordinance 21-10, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 65 of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Frisco, Colorado, Concerning Building Construction and Housing Standards, by amending Section 65-4, concerning amendments to the International Fire Code (the "IFC"), to amend provisions of the IFC concerning standards and procedures related to open fires and recreational fires.

Analysis: The 2018 International Fire Code was adopted by Ordinance 19-22, on November 26, 2019, with local amendments, including Appendix O. This appendix identified restrictions to recreational fires, open burning, fire management, smoking, and using internal combustion engines, which align with US Forest Service Phase I fire restrictions. Essentially, Appendix O placed the Town in perpetual Phase 1 fire restrictions.

Division Chief/Fire Marshal Kim McDonald, of Summit Fire & EMS explained the reasons for the code changes and summarized the amendments as follows:

With the elimination of Appendix O, the three definition changes (Permanent Outdoor Fireplace or Fire Ring, Portable Outdoor Fireplace or Chiminea and Recreational Fire) within the amendments as related to Section 202 of the IFC, and the removal of the exception in Section 307.4.3, this will address the problem of being in a perpetual fire restriction year-round. This will also bring us into conformance with the USFS and the other towns (Silverthorne, Dillon and Montezuma), Unincorporated Summit County and Red, White & Blue Fire District. This county-wide conformity will allow the fire districts to continue to monitor the fire danger using approved scientific data which will then allow us to present a unified message to our citizens and visitors. Recreational fires will still need to be permitted unless they are using propane or natural gas. Section 307 includes the permitting requirements under Section 307 of the IFC.

Summit Fire & EMS agrees that permitting for all Recreational Fires is important and believes that public education efforts similar to those in the past can inform the public of the need to obtain permits. In that regard, the public should not really see any change to past practice related to Recreational Fires from these amendments. The changes, which will be limited to times of low fire danger when no fire restrictions are in place, deletes the restrictions previously imposed by Appendix O on other activities (combustion engine operation, smoking, etc.).

Financial Impact: Adoption of Ordinance 21-10 will have no direct financial impact to the budget.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: This ordinance aligns with Town Council's Strategic Plan Priority of Quality Core Services.

Environmental Sustainability: Adoption of Ordinance 21-10 will have no direct effect on environmental sustainability.

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends the Town Council adopt Ordinance 21-10 on first reading.

Approved By:

Tony O'Rourke, Interim Town Manager
Bonnie Moinet, Finance Director
Don Reimer, Community Development Director

Attachments:

Ordinance 21-10