

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

FORT COLLINS CITY COUNCIL

ITEM NUMBER: 15

DATE: January 19, 1999

STAFF: Kevin Wilson

SUBJECT :

Second Reading of Ordinance No. 9, 1999, Amending Chapter 9 of the City Code and Adopting by Reference the 1997 Uniform Fire Code, with Amendments.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends adoption of the Ordinance on Second Reading.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The City of Fort Collins has historically adopted the Uniform Fire Code (UFC) as a model code for the identification, correction and prevention of fire safety hazards. This model code is developed and published by the International Fire Code Institute (IFCI) on three-year cycles. Currently, the City is administering the 1991 Edition. Poudre Fire Authority, along with the Fort Collins Building Department and the Larimer County Building Department, agreed in 1994 to skip one code cycle adoption. The purpose of this agreement was an effort to provide the community access to congruent model code documents. Ordinance No. 9, 1999 was unanimously adopted on First Reading on January 5, 1999.

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

FORT COLLINS CITY COUNCIL

ITEM NUMBER: 30

DATE: January 5, 1999

STAFF: Kevin Wilson

SUBJECT:

Public Hearing and First Reading of Ordinance No. 9, 1999, Amending Chapter 9 of the City Code and Adopting by Reference the 1997 Uniform Fire Code, with Amendments.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends adoption of the Ordinance on First Reading.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The City of Fort Collins has historically adopted the Uniform Fire Code (UFC) as a model code for the identification, correction and prevention of fire safety hazards. This model code is developed and published by the International Fire Code Institute (IFCI) on three-year cycles. Currently, the City is administering the 1991 Edition. Poudre Fire Authority, along with the Fort Collins Building Department and the Larimer County Building Department, agreed in 1994 to skip one code cycle adoption. The purpose of this agreement was an effort to provide the community access to congruent model code documents. The Uniform Building Code and the Uniform Fire Code are companion codes; it is paramount that the three government entities use congruent codes.

Both building departments have recently adopted the 1997 Edition of the Uniform Building Code (UBC). PFA began the adoption process in January 1998 with an in-depth staff review of the 1997 UFC. After completion of this staff review, the PFA Board of Directors appointed a Community Code Review Committee (CCRC). A list of the CCRC members is attached. The objective of the CCRC was to review the applicability of the 1997 Edition as well as review all proposed amendments.

The 1997 Edition contains significant revisions in format as compared to the 1991 Edition. PFA staff considers these revisions an improvement. Content of this Code has also been improved, allowing us to meet with ease one of our primary objectives - the elimination of as many amendments as possible. In fact, many of the 1991 amendments have now become part of published code language due to a strong and active Colorado Chapter of IFCI. Therefore, the total number of amendments has been reduced by approximately 50%.

On December 7, the Poudre Valley Fire Protection District Board of Directors adopted this model code with all proposed amendments. The Fire Board of Appeals and the Health and Safety Committee have also reviewed the Code, and both have indicated their recommendation to Council for adoption. To date, there has been no opposition to the Code or proposed amendments. Our hats go off to the Community Code Review Committee for their outstanding work on the Fire Code.

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The 1997 Edition of the Uniform Fire Code is an excellent companion document to the 1997 UBC as adopted by the City of Fort Collins and Larimer County. Staff believes this to be the best Code ever made available through the IFCI.

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