



STAFF REPORT

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Sarah Greenwald, Assistant Clerk

DATE: April 21, 2026

RE: Ordinance No. 2026-003 – Fireworks Prohibition

Background:

The Town Council previously reviewed a draft ordinance prohibiting the sale, possession, and use of fireworks within the Town of Alpine, except through an approved Special Event Permit.

Following Council discussion, revisions were made to clarify the intent of the ordinance, improve enforceability, and ensure the language reflects the Town's regulatory authority. The updated version is presented as Ordinance No. 2026-003.

Summary Of Changes:

1. Removal of "Possession" Language

- i. The original draft prohibited sale, possession, and use of fireworks.
- ii. The revised ordinance removes "possession" and instead prohibits
 - A. Sale of fireworks within Town limits
 - B. Use, discharge, or detonation within Town limits
- iii. **Clarification:** The revised language reflects the Town's intent to regulate activity within Alpine, rather than personal ownership. Fireworks may still be legally possessed by individuals; however, they may not be sold or used within Town limits unless authorized through a Special Event Permit.
- iv. **Impact:** This change avoids unnecessary regulation of private possession while maintaining clear and enforceable restrictions on activities that pose fire risk.

2. Reorganization of Section 2

- i. The original draft combined all prohibitions into a single paragraph.
- ii. The revised ordinance separates prohibitions into clearly labeled subsections:
 - A. Sale
 - B. Use/discharge

- iii. **Impact:** Improves readability and clarity for enforcement and public understanding.

3. No Substantive Changes to Intent

- i. The overall purpose remains unchanged:
 - A. Prohibit the sale and use of fireworks within Town limits
 - B. Allow fireworks only through a Town Council-approved Special Event Permit
- ii. Enforcement and penalty provisions remain consistent.

Fire Department Review:

Fire Chief Mike Vogt has reviewed the revised ordinance and is in support of the proposed regulations.

Chief Vogt's support reflects ongoing concerns regarding wildfire risk, particularly given Alpine's location within a wildland-urban interface area. The prohibition on fireworks aligns with fire prevention efforts and public safety priorities within the community.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of Ordinance No. 2026-003 on 1st reading.