

| Agenda Item | cover sheet

for consideration by the Apex Town Council

Item Type: PRESENTATION

Meeting Date: October 11, 2022

Item Details

Presenter(s): Tim Herman, Fire Chief
David Dillon, Deputy Fire Marshal

Department(s): Fire Services Department

Requested Motion

Motion to adopt a proclamation designating the week of October 9 through 15, 2022 as Fire Prevention Week in the Town of Apex.

Approval Recommended?

Yes

Item Details

Fire Prevention Week is celebrating its 100th year, the longest running health campaign, to honor the brave firefighters and first responders who risk their lives to protect us every day and reaffirm the importance of fire safety and preparedness.

Fire Prevention Week was started by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) in 1922 to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. Fire Prevention Week teaches children and adults how to stay safe in the event of a fire. In 1925, President Calvin Coolidge proclaimed the first National Fire Prevention Week to occur from October 4 through October 10, 1925. President Coolidge stated that, "This waste results from the conditions which justify a sense of shame and horror; for the greater part of it could and ought to be prevented... It is highly desirable that every effort be made to reform the conditions which have made possible so vast a destruction of the national wealth".

The Great Chicago Fire burned from October 8 to October 10, 1871, with most of the damage occurring on October 9th. The fire caused roughly \$ 200 million in damages, killing approximately 300 people, and destroying over 17, 000 buildings and structures. The consequences were more than just fire damage itself, as martial law had to be declared after an outbreak of looting and lawlessness.

Fire impacts a community financially, including lost tax revenue, reduced tourism and business

investment, downgraded bonds, and reduced real estate values. This week, all people in the Town of Apex should educate themselves about fire prevention and safety and recommit to taking the necessary steps to prevent fires. The year's theme, " Fire won' t wait. Plan your escape." effectively serves to remind Apex residents of the importance of having a home fire escape plan.

Attachments

- Proclamation

