



Agenda Memo

Crest Hill, IL

Meeting Date:	May 13, 2024
Submitter:	Ronald Mentzer, Interim Community and Economic Development Director
Department:	Community Development
Agenda Item:	City of Crest Hill Gun/Shooting Range Regulations

Background:

Alderman Cipiti has requested the May 13 Workshop Agenda include a discussion of the City's existing code provisions that regulate the establishment and operation of new gun/shooting ranges.

I have researched the City Code and only found one reference to "licensed shooting gallery, gun club, rifle club" in section 9.75.030. This regulation simply states that it is illegal to discharge a gun or pistol within the City, except on the premises used by a duly licensed shooting gallery, gun club, or rifle club.

I also reviewed the Zoning Ordinance. My summary of the how the existing provisions of the City's Zoning Regulations impact the establishment and operation of a new gun/shooting range is as follows:

1. As the City's designated Zoning Officer, I have determined the following existing provisions of the City's Zoning Ordinance currently prohibit new gun/shooting ranges:

- Table 4A of the Zoning Ordinance lists all of the non-residential land uses that are allowed as either a permitted or a special use in each of the different zoning districts that exist in the City of Crest Hill.
- "*Gun Range*" or "*Shooting Range*" are not specifically listed in Table 4A as either a possible permitted or special use in any zoning district.
- According to section 8.1.3 of the Zoning Ordinance, "*All those uses not expressly authorized in the zoning district shall be deemed prohibited*".

2. Zoning Ordinance Procedure options to allow a new gun/shooting range:

- Section 12.11 of the Zoning Ordinance outlines in detail how any land use not specifically listed as either a permitted or special use in Table 4A could potentially be approved by the City Council as a “similar and compatible” use. This process ultimately requires a public hearing before the Plan Commission and City Council approval of a Special Use for the unlisted use as a “similar and compatible use”.
- Section 12.8-4 of the Zoning Ordinance outlines the process by which the Lockport Fire District could submit a formal application that requests the text of City Zoning Ordinance Table 3 be amended to add “Gun Range” or “Shooting Range” to the list of permitted or special uses allowed in the underlying M-1 Zoning District. If “Gun Range” or “Shooting Range” is added to the list of special uses, the Lockport Fire District would also need then request approval of a Special Use approval that would allow a this type of use at a specific location. The text amendment and special use processes both require a public hearing before the Plan Commission and then approval by the City Council to actually be implemented.

Recommended Council Action:

No action necessary. This is an informational item.

Funding Source: N/A

Budgeted Amount: N/A

Cost: N/A