

Fireworks

Ordinance amending Chapter 15 of Title 14

June 7, 2022

City Council Meeting



Background

- **Worksession presentation to Council on February 8, 2022**
 - **State and Local code and policy regarding fireworks**
 - **Fireworks sales within the City of Greeley**
 - **Fire and PD fireworks related response data**
 - **Enforcement efforts and challenges**
 - **Benchmarking information from other communities**
- **Obtain Council direction on ordinance change options**



Options presented

- **Option 1 - Permissible fireworks remain legal**
- **Option 2 - Modify existing ordinance**
 - **Increase fines**
 - **Consideration of a social host ordinance**
- **Option 3 - Prohibit all fireworks**



Municipal Fines & Surcharge

City	Current Fines	Notes
Greeley	\$150 + \$30 surcharge = \$180	For subsequent violations, officer discretion to issue citation/fine or summons only into court
Ft. Collins	\$1,000-\$3,000	Summons only with possibility of up to 6 months in jail
Longmont	fines range up to \$999	Summons only with possibility of up to 18 months in jail
Loveland	\$1,000	If the defendant cannot pay immediately, sentenced to 3 days in county jail
Thornton	\$500-\$1,000	Summons only

Code Revision – Chapter 15

- **Sec 14-482 – Knowingly provide private property for possession or use of illegal fireworks.**
 - **No one who owns, rents, leases or controls private property shall knowingly allow any person to possess or use fireworks, except for permissible fireworks as allowed in sec 14-481, anywhere on said property.**



Code Revision – Chapter 15

- **Sec 14-483 – Penalty.**
 - **Changed from a misdemeanor infraction to a misdemeanor offense**
 - **Fine increase from \$500.00 to not less than \$1000.00, plus any additional penalties assessed.**
 - **Up to \$500.00 of the fine on a first violation may be suspended if the guilty party completes a city-sponsored or city-approved fire safety course, within 91 days of sentencing.**
 - **A repeat violation within 365 days from a finding of guilty shall cause the full amount of the fine to be immediately reinstated in full.**

Recommendation

Council's recommended action is to adopt the ordinance and publish with reference to title only.





Questions?

