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TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA COMMUNICATIONS

AGENDA DATE: November 18, 2024

SUBJECT: **Public Hearing** – Ordinance 2024-264, an Ordinance Amending Section 10-191 and Section 10-196 of the Johnstown Municipal Code Concerning Carrying Firearms in Public Spaces

ACTION PROPOSED: Consider Ordinance No. 2024-264

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Ordinance Amending Section 10-191 and Section 10-196 of the Johnstown Municipal Code Concerning Carrying Firearms in Public Spaces

PRESENTED BY: Avi Rocklin, Town Attorney
Jeff Strossner, Chief of Police
Matt LeCerf, Town Manager

AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION: During the 2024 legislative session, the Colorado General Assembly enacted Senate Bill 24-131 prohibiting, with limited exception, the carrying of firearms, including concealed handguns, on property and in buildings where, among others: (i) the chambers of a local government’s governing body is located; (ii) a meeting of the local government’s governing body is located; (iii) the office of the Mayor, a Town Councilmember or the Town Manager is located and (iv) judicial proceedings are located (collectively, “Public Spaces”). The legislation, codified at §§ 18-12-105.3 and 18-12-214, C.R.S., allows a local government to opt out of the restrictions with respect to all the Public Spaces except for where judicial proceedings are located. Based on conferral with the Town Council, the Town Council requested that the Town Attorney draft an ordinance to opt out of the prohibitions for persons with valid concealed carry permits. Following a draft of the ordinance to opt out of the prohibition, Town Council held a work session to review and discuss the ordinance. From this work session, additional modifications were made to the ordinance that were generally receptive to Council.

Article X of Chapter 10 of the Johnstown Municipal Code regulates offenses related to weapons and Section 10-196 contained therein regulates the carrying of concealed weapons. The proposed ordinance, Ordinance 2024-264, an Ordinance Amending Section 10-191 and Section 10-196 of the Johnstown Municipal Code Concerning Carrying Firearms in Public Spaces, adds a definition of firearm and handgun and modifies section 10-196 to accomplish the foregoing.

The Community that Cares

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

- Organizational Excellence & Public Trust
 - *Strengthen public trust and confidence*
 - *Engage, inform and involve the community*

LEGAL ADVICE:

The Town attorney drafted Ordinance No. 2024-264.

FINANCIAL ADVICE:

NA

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve Ordinance No. 2024-264, An Ordinance Amending Section 10-191 and Section 10-196 of the Johnstown Municipal Code Concerning Carrying Firearms in Public Spaces on first reading.

SUGGESTED MOTIONS:

For Approval: I move to approve Ordinance 2024-264, an Ordinance Amending Section 10-191 and Section 10-196 of the Johnstown Municipal Code Concerning Carrying Firearms in Public Spaces.

For Approval with Conditions: I move to approve Ordinance 2024-264, an Ordinance Amending Section 10-191 and Section 10-196 of the Johnstown Municipal Code Concerning Carrying Firearms in Public Spaces, with the following modifications _____.

For Denial: I move to deny approval of Ordinance 2024-264, an Ordinance Amending Section 10-191 and Section 10-196 of the Johnstown Municipal Code Concerning Carrying Firearms in Public Spaces.

Reviewed and Approved for Presentation,



Town Manager