

TOWN OF LOXAHATCHEE GROVES

155 F Road Loxahatchee Groves, FL 33470



AGENDA MEMO

TO: Town Council, Town of Loxahatchee Groves

FROM: Francine L. Ramaglia, CPA, AICP, ICMA-CM, Town Manager

DATE: Tuesday, May 6th, 2025

SUBJECT: Consideration of Approval on *Ordinance No. 2025-01 on First Reading. An Ordinance of the Town of Loxahatchee Groves, Florida, amending its code of ordinances by creating chapter 27 “Fireworks” to provide for regulations regarding the use of fireworks.*

Background:

The use of fireworks in Town has raised ongoing concerns related to safety, noise, livestock disturbance, and impacts on rural quality of life. Residents have reported that fireworks, especially during major holidays, pose a threat to animals and create stress for families and veterans.

The Town has the authority under Section 791.08, Florida Statutes, to prohibit the use of fireworks to protect public safety and animal welfare. In response to community concerns and Council direction, staff have prepared Ordinance No. 2025-01 to formally restrict fireworks use in Town limits.

Ordinance Summary:

The proposed ordinance:

- Prohibits the use of fireworks except for approved public displays,
- Allow sparklers and other non-explosive items defined by state law,
- Provides exemptions for emergency and agricultural use,
- Establishes enforcement and appeal procedures.

Community Education & Enforcement:

To support the ordinance and encourage voluntary compliance, the Town will expand its public outreach efforts beyond signage and social media messaging to include:

- A-frame signs with interchangeable banners placed during peak holidays,

- Printed educational materials, website and social media updates, and e-blasts,
- Coordination with PBSO and Code Enforcement for visibility and response.

Recommendation:

Motion by the Loxahatchee Groves Town Council to approve ***Ordinance No. 2025-01*** for approval and first reading.