

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY SHEET

City of Rollingwood

Meeting Date: October 16, 2024

Submitted By:

Staff

Agenda Item:

Discussion and possible action on an amendment to the Code of Ordinances regarding residential lighting and related provisions

Description:

The CRCRC approved the attached recommendations regarding residential lighting and sent their recommendations on to the Planning and Zoning Commission. At the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting on October 2, these recommendations were approved (by a 6-0 vote) to be sent on to the City Council with the understanding that this would ultimately come back before the Planning and Zoning Commission through the Public Hearing process before it can be adopted. In this approval, the Planning and Zoning Commission asked for the following considerations (staff/legal/planning comments are in red next to the considerations):

- Consider adding provisions for string lights **Adding a provision to specifically allow string lights would be allowed because this would be less restrictive than the International Dark Sky Community Requirements.**
- Consider the Commission's objections to prohibiting uplighting (in trees) **Specifically allowing uplighting in trees would be allowed because this would be less restrictive than the International Dark Sky Community Requirements.**
- Consider not requiring replacement fixtures to comply with new code (example given was if they have a set of 10 matching outdoor lights and one needs to be replaced, they don't want to have it replaced with one that complies/doesn't match the rest of them) **No concerns with this.**
- Consider whether 3000 Kelvin should be closer to 4000 to 5000 Kelvin for landscape lighting. **This would be allowed because it is less restrictive than the International Dark Sky Community Requirements.**
- Consider including provisions for timers in lieu of photocells **No concerns with this.**
- The Term "setback" will need to be made to match our required "yards" (don't have setbacks in the residential zoning district) **See comment recommending this be handled in the Nuisance section of our code.**
- Consider whether the "up to \$2000" fine is reasonable or if it should be lowered
- Consider allowing lights in the side setback if there is a side entrance (d)(7) **No concerns.**

Additionally, this lighting document was reviewed by legal/planning and additional comments were generated and put in the attached lighting recommendation document. When reviewing this against the International Dark Sky Community Requirements, we can't be more restrictive than the International Dark Sky Community requirements because we are not a Dark Sky Community. If the City becomes an International Dark Sky Community we could be create rules that are more restrictive.

Action Requested:

Staff requests that Council:

- Review the considerations provided by the P&Z above and direct staff as to whether to incorporate those recommendations in the draft.
- Review the attached draft with staff/planning comments and provide direction to staff as to incorporating those comments.
- Provide direction to staff as to next steps for this draft ordinance. The options could include sending it through the public hearing process or bringing it back with changes for additional review.

Fiscal Impacts:

No significant fiscal impacts anticipated at this time.

Attachments:

- Draft recommendations in text amendment format approved by CRCRC and approved by P&Z to be sent to City Council for next steps, with comments from staff/planning review.