



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

City Manager

City Council Regular Meeting Date: December 6, 2022

To: City Council
From: Dana A. Souza, City Manager
Date: November 25, 2022

SUBJECT: Public Hearing and Second Reading of Proposed Ordinance 22-007 amending the following sections of the Code of Ordinances pertaining to Gas Powered Leaf Blowers:

Chapter 30 – Environment

- Article III – Noise
 - Section 30-70 – Gas Powered Leaf Blowers.

BACKGROUND:

On August 24, 2021, the Sanibel City Council adopted Ordinance 21-004 amending Chapter 30, Environment, Article III, Noise, Section 30-70, Gas Powered Leaf Blowers. This Ordinance prohibits the use of any gas-powered leaf blower beginning December 31, 2022.

Landscape business owners spoke during public comment at the September 12, 2022, City Council meeting and asked City Council to amend the date when Gas Powered Leaf Blowers would be prohibited in the City. Business owners made this request because equipment was not readily available in the marketplace for business owners to comply with the Ordinance by December 31, 2022.

City Councilmembers asked staff to verify the availability of battery powered leaf blowers and advise City Councilmembers if a change to the Ordinance was warranted. Staff has verified that major manufacturers of battery powered leaf blowers have a shortage in lithium batteries. The manufacturer's representative recommended a 6-month delay in implementation of Ordinance 19-012.

Staff recommends that Section 30-70 of the Code of Ordinances be amended to change the date gas-powered leaf blowers would be prohibited in Sanibel from December 31, 2022, to June 30, 2023.

The proposed amendment to Section 30-70, Gas Powered Leaf Blowers was presented to the City Council on November 1, 2022.

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

Sanibel is and shall remain a barrier island sanctuary

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Conduct a Public Hearing on proposed Ordinance amendment. Approve Ordinance 22-007 amending Chapter 30, Section 30-70, of the Sanibel Code of Ordinances as written (or as amended by the City Council).

Sanibel is and shall remain a barrier island sanctuary