

ORDINANCE NO. 1529

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PANAMA CITY BEACH, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATED TO FIRES ON THE SANDY GULF BEACH; REVISING THE STANDARDS FOR ISSUANCE, LOCATION AND CONDUCT OF BEACH BONFIRES; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATELY EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF PANAMA CITY BEACH:

SECTION 1. From and after the effective date of this ordinance, ARTICLES I of Chapter 7, BEACHES, BOATS, AND WATER SAFETY, of the Panama City Beach Code of Ordinances is amended to read as follows (new text **bold and underlined**, deleted text struck through):

ARTICLE I. - IN GENERAL

Sec. 7-11. Fires.

~~(a) Except as otherwise authorized by a special event permit issued pursuant to Chapter 4 it~~ shall be unlawful for any person to ignite or maintain, or participate in the maintenance of, a fire, bonfire or campfire on the sandy gulf beach, without a permit issued by the City Fire Department as provided herein and in accordance with rules set by the City Fire Department;

~~(1) No fires will be allowed between May 1 through September 30.~~ **No fire permit shall be issued to any person other than a registered bonfire vendor with the City as evidenced by possession of a current business tax receipt issued pursuant to Chapter 14 of this Code.**

(2) No fires will be allowed within 200 **250** feet of a marked turtle nest, within 50 feet of vegetation line or within 100 feet of any habitable structure. **Any fire must cease immediately upon the discovery of an unmarked sea turtle nest or any other sea turtle activity within the distance limitation proscribed by this section.**

(3) No fire permit using organic wood material shall be issued if wind conditions are greater than ten (10) miles per hour.

(4) No fire permit shall be issued if the National Weather Service, Florida Forest Service, or county has issued a red flag fire warning, a no burn order, or when the City Fire Department determines that the proposed fire will endanger the public health, safety, welfare, or other people or property. All permitted fires must occur between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m. The site shall be cleaned of all debris and restored to its natural condition by 12:00 a.m. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this section for a person to fail to clean up after the fire has been extinguished. No debris from the fire may be deposited in any public garbage receptacle on the sandy beach.

(5) All permitted fires must be fueled solely by propane gas or organic wood material via an elevated fire pit not to exceed three (3) feet in diameter. Burning of any material other than organic wood material or propane shall be a violation of this Code.

(6) The permit holder shall be present at all times on the site and shall have the signed permit available for inspection.

(7) A maximum of ten (10) permits per day shall be issued on a first come first served basis.

(8) Notwithstanding the distance limitations provided by section (2) herein, any fire located within 400 feet of a marked turtle nest must be screened so as to reduce the fire's visible light to the nest. Permit holders shall erect protective screening in the manner and location required by the permit.

(9) Permit holders shall immediately contact the Police Department when hatchlings are or become present.

(10) A qualified applicant under this section may submit electronic fire permit application to the Building and Planning Department, the Fire Department and the Police Department.

(11) All permit holders have a duty to take reasonable measures necessary to protect nearby turtle nests whether marked or not from the potential adverse impact of the fire and associated activities.

SECTION 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 3. The appropriate officers and agents of the City are authorized and directed to codify, include and publish in electronic format the provisions of this Ordinance within the Panama City Beach Code of Ordinances, and unless a contrary ordinance is adopted within ninety (90) days following such publication, the codification of this Ordinance shall become the final and official record of the matters herein ordained. Section numbers may be assigned and changed whenever necessary or convenient.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED at the regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Panama City Beach, Florida, this 13th day of August, 2020.



MAYOR

ATTEST:



CITY CLERK (Interim)

20200602

EXAMINED AND APPROVED by me this 13th day of August, 2020.



MAYOR

Published in the News Herald on the 31st day of July, 2020.

Posted on pcbgov.com on the 14th day of August, 2020.