



Agenda Item Details

Meeting	Apr 27, 2016 - City Commission Meeting
Category	12. INTRODUCTIONS OF ORDINANCE
Subject	12.01 Introduction of Ordinance 16-O-14: Amending Chapter 9 of the Code of General Ordinances Regarding the Certification Period for Fertilizer Applicators; and Setting First and Only Public Hearing for May 25, 2016 -- Mike Tadros, Underground Utilities & Public Infrastructure
Type	Action, Introduction of Ordinance
Fiscal Impact	No
Recommended Action	Option 1 – Introduce Ordinance 16-O-14 and set first and only public hearing for May 25, 2016.

For more information, please contact: John Buss, Underground Utilities & Public Infrastructure, 850-891-6860.

Statement of Issue

Chapter 9 of the City Code of Ordinances requires that a commercial or institutional fertilizer applicator be trained and certified. The City currently certifies commercial and institutional fertilizer applicators for a period of three years after applicators complete an approved training program. This amendment will change the term of the City certification to four years to make it consistent with the term of a State license certification that was recently amended. See Fla. Stat., § 482.1562 (providing certification for urban landscape commercial fertilizer application).

Recommended Action

Option 1 – Introduce Ordinance 16-O-14 and set first and only public hearing for May 25, 2016.

Fiscal Impact

No Fiscal Impact

Supplemental Material/Issue Analysis

History/Facts & Issues

Article V of Chapter 9 of the Tallahassee Code provides for the regulation of fertilizer application within the City. The Code requires all fertilizer applicators to abide by best management practices. The Code further requires certification of commercial and institutional fertilizer applicators and requires training in best management practices as part of the certification.

The State of Florida also requires that commercial fertilizer applicators have a license issued by the State. A requirement of State certification is training in Green Industries - Best Management Practices. The training for State licensure satisfies the training requirement for City of Tallahassee certification.

When the City adopted the Code provisions regulating fertilizer use and requiring City certification of fertilizer applicators, the State of Florida licensure period was for three years. The State recently revised its program and the term of the State licensure is now four years. The proposed change to the City's certification period is to allow the City certification to run concurrently with the State licensure.

Options

Option 1. Introduce Ordinance 16-O-14 and set first and only public hearing for May 25, 2016.

Pros:

1. Establishes certification schedule consistent with licensure period under State law.
2. Reduces cost and expense to applicators.
3. Reduces confusion arising from inconsistent training requirements under State law and the Tallahassee Code.

Cons:

1. Increases the time period between training.

Option 2. Do not introduce Ordinance 16-O-14 and provide direction to staff.

Pros:

1. Requires more frequent applicator training.

Cons:

2. Training schedule inconsistent with State licensure requirements will result in duplication of training and additional time and expense to applicators.

Attachments/References

Attachment 1: Proposed Ordinance 16-O-14

[2016-04-27 Attachment 1 - Ord No 16-O-14.pdf \(21 KB\)](#)