

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Information for Town Council Meeting on: June 12, 2018

To: Mayor and Town Council

From: Paul W. Castro, Acting Director of Planning, Zoning and Building

Re: ARCOM Code Language Change to Allow for a Non-Resident Expert
Ordinance No. 07-2018

Date: May 31, 2018

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Town Council hear and consider the proposed code change to Chapter 18 that will allow for a non-resident expert on the Architectural Commission (ARCOM).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Attached is an ordinance that proposes to change the ARCOM code language found in Chapter 18, and will allow for a non-resident expert to sit on ARCOM. The rationale behind this is that it is becoming increasingly more difficult to find licensed architects and landscape architects that are Town residents. While the landscape architect position can be filled by a certified master gardener or someone else that has similar experience, the two required architect positions must be filled by Florida licensed architects who reside in the Town (though one may be licensed in a State other than Florida). Staff envisions there may be a time in the near future where there may not be two licensed architects (licensed in Florida or another State) available that are also Town residents. This code change will give the Town Council the flexibility to appoint a non-resident to fulfill a required architect position if no Town resident is available. The code change will also allow Town Council to appoint a non-resident to fulfill the required landscape architect/master gardener position, although this is not as concerning to Town staff given the master gardener certification course currently available through the State.

It should be noted that the language added allowing for a non-resident expert on ARCOM is almost identical to the language found in Chapter 54, which allows Town Council to appoint a non-resident expert on to the Landmarks Preservation Commission.

At the May 8, 2018 Town Council meeting, staff was directed to add language in the code revision specifying that a non-resident must have special expertise “as a State of Florida licensed architect or landscape architect” in order to be appointed to ARCOM; this language has been added in Sec. 18-167.

TOWN ATTORNEY REVIEW

Ordinance No. 07-2018 has been approved by the Town Attorney for legal form and sufficiency.

Attachment

PC:jl

cc: Robert J. Vila, Chairman, Architectural Commission
Members, Architectural Commission (ARCOM)
John Lindgren, Planning Administrator