


TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Information for Town Council Meeting on: December 14, 2021

To: Mayor and Town Council

Via: Kirk Blouin, Town Manager

From: Wayne Bergman, Director of Planning, Zoning & Building 

Re: Changes to Chapter 66 of the Town Code Regarding Artificial Turf – Ord. No. 23-2021, Second Reading

Date: November 19, 2021

GENERAL INFORMATION

At the July 1, 2021 ORS meeting, committee members and staff engaged in a robust discussion regarding the potential regulation of artificial turf within the Town. After much discussion at the July 1 meeting, the committee directed staff to prepare language for inclusion in Chapter 66 of the Town Code of Ordinances. Staff drafted language to address the definition of artificial turf, allowed locations, the formal review and approval process, and some simple installation standards.

The ORS Committee, at their meeting on September 2, 2021, reviewed this language. The ORS Committee requested that two more sections (penalty / fines and existing turf) be added to the draft language, along with an addition to the proposed standards to deal with lead content of the turf. In addition, the ORS Committee requested that staff prepare a policy of recommended best practices for the selection of artificial turf that could be provided to the members of Arcom and Landmarks. The Town Council, at their September 14, 2021 regular meeting, reviewed the draft language. The Council suggested a minor change in the proposed definition of artificial turf and they requested the removal of all proposed language dealing with existing turf. Staff re-drafted the ordinance to include these changes. The draft ordinance was reviewed by Skip Randolph for form and legal sufficiency.

Ordinance No. 23-2021 was approved on First Reading at your October 12, 2021 meeting. However, at the November 9, 2021 Town Council meeting, the proposed section 66-313, Artificial Turf Locations, was amended for clarity, and approved unanimously as amended. Although the ordinance title and substance of the ordinance remained the same, the Town Council cautiously requested an additional reading. It is now ready for adoption on Second Reading at your December 14, 2021 meeting.

cc: Jay Boodheshwar, Deputy Town Manager
James Murphy, Assistant Planning, Zoning and Building Director
John Randolph, Town Attorney