

April 6, 2015

To: Mayor Bemrich and City Council
From: David Fierke, City Manager
Subject: Open Burning of yard waste resolution



ACTION: For Discussion and possible vote Monday April 13, 2015

Brief History

The City Council passed Ordinance 2122 on May 10, 2010. This ordinance essentially banned open burning of most yard waste. Since its passage, the Council has allowed temporary and brief suspension of the ban on burning yard waste in the fall and the spring. At the request of a member of the public several council members directed me to draft the resolution allowing burning of yard waste this spring.

Analysis of Issue

The attached resolution allows the burning of yard waste starting Saturday April 18 through Sunday, April 26. The time period includes two weekends and the week days in between.

The manner in which the resolution is constructed includes yard waste, (leaves, brush, twigs, clippings, etc.) as an exception to the open burn prohibition. This essentially keeps the remaining requirements of the new ordinance in place for safety (e.g. height, size and location of fire). As in the past when open burning of yard waste was allowed, during these two time periods, the fire department will order a yard waste fire extinguished if there is a complaint, or prohibit any and all fires based on weather conditions.

BUDGET IMPACT

No budget impact

Staff Conclusions

It is the Council's discretion to put the moratorium in place. Staff recommends that it be limited to short periods and the remainder of the existing rule are maintained and that the fire department has the discretion to extinguish open burning.

Signed

David Fierke
City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION PLACING A TEPORARY MORATORIUM ON ORDINANCE 2122
“ AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE BURNING OF “ SOLID WASTE” AND
YARD WASTE WITHIN THE CITY OF FORT DODGE PROVIDING PENALTIES
FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF AND REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT
HEREWITH”

Whereas, Ordinance 2122 prohibited the open burning of yard waste with exceptions, and

Whereas, the City Council finds it desirous to allow a brief suspension of that prohibition
to allow persons to burn yard waste.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that exception 2) in Section II of Ordinance
2122 include “yard waste” as defined in FDMC 8.16.010 for the time periods listed
below:

- 1. April 18, 2015 through April 26, 2015

All other restrictions and enforcement shall remain unchanged.

The above Resolution passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Fort Dodge,
Iowa this ____th day of April, 2015.

Ayes: _____

Nays: _____

Other: _____

CITY OF FORT DODGE

BY: _____

Matt Bemrich, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jeff Nemmers , City Clerk