STAFF REPORT

Date: 10-6-16
[UPDATED 12-01-16]

Case File #: N/A

General Description: Use of Pine Straw Prohibited in Residential Districts

☒ Town Initiated

☐ Citizen Initiated

Applicant(s): N/A

STAFF COMMENTARY

Town staff researched ordinances from neighboring cities and towns to see what restrictions were in place for restricting the use of pine straw for landscaping, it was found that developing an ordinance to restrict the use of pine straw for residential properties is nonexistent.

Fire Chief Kevin Dempsey presented his findings at the September 15, 2016 meeting and stated that this type of regulation would be difficult to enforce.

Ordinances have been found from neighboring cities and towns that restrict the use of pine straw as a ground cover but they only address commercial structures, which would include multi-family buildings. Chief Kevin Dempsey was in support of this type of regulation.

It was also noted that creating this standard would be of use in the Town Code and not a standard that would be approved for use in the zoning code.

UPDATE (12-01-16): IN RESPONSE TO COMMENTS PROVIDED BY THE PLANNING BOARD, STAFF HAS DRAFTED A NOTIFICATION LETTER TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO:

- **SUNSET BEACH REAL ESTATE AGENTS**
- **SUNSHINE LIST**
- **CONTRACTORS EMAIL LIST**
- **LOCAL LANDSCAPING CONTRACTORS**
- **TOWN WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK**
- **POSTING AT TOWN HALL**