

From: Andrew Mowery <andrew.p.mowery@gmail.com>

Date: July 7, 2021 at 6:07:32 PM MDT

To: Theresa Martinson <theresa@trademarkpmg.com>

Subject: Fwd: Fire hydrant clearance

Theresa,

I just received confirmation from the Poudre Fire Authority regarding access to fire hydrants, and it would appear that POHOA has a code obligation to the County to keep all fire hydrants unobstructed. While the weed-wacking/edging around that area is part of this, I believe that having 3-5 feet of grasses that the fire department would have to wade through to find it (if their maps are accurate) at night, would create significant additional risks for those relying upon that fire hydrant for fire suppression.

I have yet to receive confirmation that the problem is due to negligence/incompetence on either the part of Trademark or the Board in scheduling the pre-arranged contractor on time for the second season in a row. The notice sent to the community vaguely blames contractors for being too busy and does not take ownership of the failure. While this is something that probably should have come up at the Landscaping Committee meetings, my requests for remote participation have been denied by Ms. Jones because:

- a) she claims to not have enough minutes on her cell plan to provide such access (it wouldn't be necessary with wi-fi)
- b) she does not know how to set up a Zoom meeting (I sent an instructional youtube video, and did not receive a reply)

I would like confirmation that all Landscaping Meetings will be accessible remotely going forward so that homeowners with these concerns can have an opportunity to participate preemptively to avoid another lapse in performance of this service. I would also like confirmation of when and where Landscaping Committee meetings have been happening, as there is neither notice on the website nor email notice. There are also no records of meeting minutes for this Committee. If the Committee has not been meeting, please confirm that in writing (and explain whether the Committee or the Board is making these landscaping decisions).

I spoke with Capt. Wiggins, who confirmed for me that POHOA should not feel that maintenance around the fire hydrant is optional going forward. This should be noted in the permanent records of POHOA, so that neither the Board nor Landscaping Committee fails to properly schedule and perform this work twice annually, or as often as required. If this work is to be done by volunteers, then it should have been an agenda item earlier in the year to mobilize that volunteer work crew in advance before it became an issue - it's MUCH harder to weed-wack grasses and weeds when they are 5 feet tall then doing it at the right time, when they are a more manageable height.

Please confirm in writing that POHOA will no longer allow this hydrant to become obstructed again in the future.

Sincerely,

Andy

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Wayne Wiggins** <Wayne.Wiggins@poudre-fire.org>

Date: Wed, Jul 7, 2021 at 5:13 PM

Subject: Fire hydrant clearance

To: andrew.p.mowery@gmail.com <andrew.p.mowery@gmail.com>

Andy,

This code reference to the clearance for fire hydrants is from the 2018 International Fire Code (IFC), adopted by the City of Ft. Collins and Larimer County.

507.5.4 Obstruction. Unobstructed access to fire hydrants shall be maintained at all times. The fire department shall not be deterred or hindered from gaining immediate access to fire protection equipment or fire hydrants.

507.5.5 Clear space around hydrants. A 3-foot (914 mm) clear space shall be maintained around the circumference of fire hydrants, except as otherwise required or *approved*.

507.5.6 Physical protection. Where fire hydrants are subject to impact by a motor vehicle, guard posts or other *approved* means shall comply with Section 312.

Captain Wayne Wiggins
Assistant Fire Marshal
Inspection Services
Poudre Fire Authority