INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: JOSEPH LO BELLO, TOWN MANAGER

FROM: BRIAN J. SMITH, CHIEF OF POLICE

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION ON BEACH FIRE PERMITS

DATE: FEBRUARY 17, 2016

Background:

The Juno Beach Police Department currently issues Beach Fire Permits to Juno Beach residents with no fee and to non-residents for a fee of $300. The season in which Beach Fire Permits may be issued is from November 1st thru February 29th. As of today's date, there have been 76 Beach Fire Permits issued since November 1st, 6 of these permits were issued to non-residents.

Discussion:

As a result of discussions with the Town's senior staff about the resources expended on Beach Fire Permits, it is my recommendation that the Town implement a security deposit and permit fee to the issuance of all Beach Fire Permits. The Police Department uses staff to issue the fire permits, calendar the event, and when possible visit the site of the beach fire to assure compliance. Members of the Police Department have reported that some Beach Fire Permit holders are not following the rules provided to them. Members of the Public Works Department have had to clean up burnt fire wood and other trash left behind by permit holders. On numerous occasions, applicants have requested multiple permits, for different dates, in order to decide later which date works better for them. This practice of applying for multiple permits and noncompliance with the fire permit rules would be deterred by having a permit fee and a security deposit.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends council discuss the issue of fees and deposits for Beach Fire Permits