

City expands temporary campgrounds permits ahead of Camporee

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Jun 24, 2024



Attendees browse RVs on display during the Family Motor Coach Association's 103rd International Convention and RV Expo at Cam-plex in 2021. The Gillette City Council approved a resolution allowing property owners to turn their vacant lots into temporary campgrounds during Camporee.

News Record File Photo

Earlier this year, the city council passed a resolution suspending the rules regarding occupancy in campers and RVs within city limits from July 31 to Aug. 13. It allowed RVs, campers and tents to be occupied as long as they were on private property.

City Administrator Mike Cole said the city had received some interest from property owners in areas zoned for industrial and commercial uses. Because the zoning did not match up with what was stated in the resolution, they had to be denied.

Last week, the Gillette City Council passed a new resolution to open up the temporary occupancy applications to all zoning districts within city limits.

Applications are available for free at the city's planning division, which is on the second floor of City Hall.

There are a few more steps involved for those in the commercial and industrial zoning districts, who must submit their applications by July 10.

These applicants must submit a campsite plan and a letter that explains how they will handle basic health and safety requirements, as well as connections to utilities:

How will trash services, potable water, sewer and electric services be provided to patrons?

Will temporary portable toilet facilities be provided?

What is the frequency of maintenance for trash pick-up, cleaning of portable toilet facilities and/or refilling of potable water supplies?

How will security be addressed?

Will a “curfew” or “quiet hours” be enforced between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. each day?

How will the property owner minimize conflicts between patrons and other permitted uses located on the same property?

They also must get a letter from the Campbell County Fire Department saying that everything is good to go.

The city’s planning division will take all of these applications and send them on to the city council for review and approval on a case-by-case basis at a July 16 meeting.

As for the residential property owners, the process is simpler. The rules for the residential areas include:

Tents are allowed in yards, grass, irrigated areas and open space entirely on private property, but restroom facilities must be made available.

Campers, motorhomes, RVs and tents are not allowed in public right-of-way, city streets and other city property, including parks, open spaces, drainage ways and other facilities.

Campers, motorhomes and RVs shall be connected to city utilities, including metered water, sewer and electricity.

For more information, call the planning division at 307-686-5281.

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