



AMANDA FUSCO

Director of Legislated Services & City Clerk

Corporate Services Department

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October 17, 2024

Will Short

Regional Clerk

150 Frederick St., 2nd Fl.

Kitchener ON N2G 4J3

Dear Will Short:

This is to advise that City Council, at a meeting held on September 30, 2024, passed the following resolution regarding fireworks:

"WHEREAS the use of fireworks has raised significant safety, environmental, and noise concerns among residents in our city and neighboring municipalities; and;

WHEREAS various cities across Canada, including Vancouver, West Vancouver, Brampton, Woodstock, and Milton, have implemented bans or strict regulations on fireworks; and;

WHEREAS addressing the fireworks issue through a collaborative regional approach could enhance the effectiveness and consistency of policies across municipalities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Staff be directed to contact colleagues in cities that have banned or strictly regulated fireworks, such as Vancouver, West Vancouver, Brampton, Woodstock, and Milton with the goal to gather feedback on:

- The effectiveness of their fireworks bans or regulations.
- Recommendations on best practices and strategies that are working well.
- Challenges faced and lessons learned from their experiences;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Staff be further directed to connect with municipalities within the Region of Waterloo to discuss the fireworks issue, sharing insights, and exploring how to work together to develop a unified regional approach; and,

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that based on the consultations and regional discussions, Staff then report back to Council with their findings and recommendations by April 2025 and address:

- How the City of Kitchener can make fireworks regulations more stringent;
- Potential policies or actions that can be implemented to address the fireworks issue effectively; and,
- Strategies for a coordinated regional effort to manage and enforce fireworks regulations; and,

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Staff be directed to explore the feasibility and related costs of developing a framework for City-coordinated fireworks events on days when fireworks are permitted, including researching other municipalities that have implemented similar initiatives, with a focus on providing safe, environmentally responsible, and community-oriented celebrations; and,

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that staff be directed to examine the cost and implications of all city run events moving away from fireworks to light shows whether drone or through other means.”

Yours truly,



A. Fusco
Director of Legislated Services & City Clerk

Cc: Julie Finley-Swaren, City Clerk, City of Waterloo
Danielle Manton, City Clerk, City of Cambridge
Cynthia Hislop, Clerk, Township of North Dumfries
Grace Kosch, Clerk, Township of Wellesley
Kaitlin Bos, Deputy Clerk, Township of Wilmot
Jeff Smith, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk, Township of Woolwich