



CORPORATE SERVICES

Staff Report

REPORT NO: COR 2023-15

TO: Council

SUBMITTED BY: Patrick Kelly CPA, CMA Director of Corporate Services / Treasurer

PREPARED BY: Erin Merritt, Manager of Municipal Law Enforcement

REVIEWED BY: Jeff Bunn, Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk
Sharon Chambers, CAO

DATE: March 20, 2023

SUBJECT: Repeal Wilmot Fireworks By-Law #2012-01 and Replace with By-law #2023-XX

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council repeal Fireworks By-Law #2012-01 and replace it with Fireworks By-Law #2023-XX.

SUMMARY:

In replacing the Fireworks by-law #2023-XX, we have included an additional holiday (Diwali) in which fireworks are commonly a part of such celebrations and updated prohibited fireworks to ensure safer celebrations within the Township.

BACKGROUND:

Council passed the Fireworks by-law #2012-01 in 2012, which outlines when fireworks could be sold within the Township, where they could be used in the Township and the permitting process for larger displays.

Over the last couple of years, the Township has been asked by a few residents if they can have small fireworks displays for Diwali. Staff have allowed this to occur; however, it is felt that permanent changes to the by-law are warranted to allow for such celebrations.

REPORT:

The following is a summary of the proposed changes made to the Fireworks by-law:

- Addition of four (4) definitions added to the bylaw.
- Additions made to Section 3.9, to include Diwali
- Addition of Section 3.10, which would prohibit the use of fireworks within the Township during a Fire Ban that was issued by the Fire Chief
- Addition of Section 3.11, which excludes the use of prohibited fireworks and sky lanterns within the Township.

These changes allow the fireworks bylaw to be more inclusive and better regulate the use of fireworks to ensure safer celebrations within the Township. Around the Region, Waterloo, Kitchener, Cambridge have permitted fireworks during Diwali. Other cities such as Guelph, Sarina and Toronto also allow for the use of fireworks during Diwali celebrations.

The Township of Wilmot Fire department was consulted on these changes and is in support of these updates to the Fireworks by-law.

ALIGNMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF WILMOT STRATEGIC PLAN:

The proposed changes to the Fireworks Bylaw align with the Quality of Life and Responsible Governance Strategic Plan Goals.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The by-law review and proposed update was completed within internal staffing resources and as such funded through general operations of the Legislative Services and By-Law Enforcement Divisions.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attached is By-Law #2023-XX – Fireworks By-Law