



## CORPORATE SERVICES *Staff Report*

---

REPORT NO: COR-2024-27

TO: Council

SUBMITTED BY: Jeff Bunn, Manager of Legislative Services/Municipal Clerk

PREPARED BY: Erin Merritt, Supervisor of Municipal Law Enforcement

REVIEWED BY: Sharon Chambers, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: May 27, 2024

SUBJECT: Fireworks Bylaw Exemption – 3180 Bridge Street, New Hamburg

---

### RECOMMENDATION:

THAT an exemption to the Township of Wilmot Fireworks By-law be granted for 3180 Bridge Street, New Hamburg for Saturday June 1, 2024 (or June 2, 2024 if there is a delay due to weather).

### SUMMARY:

Approval for a request of a Fireworks By-law Exemption is being sought for a celebration of a crop and land dedication for the future farming and crop growing activities.

### BACKGROUND:

The Township of Wilmot's Fireworks By-law 2023-17 permits the use of fireworks to be set off on Victoria Day, Canada Day, Diwali, Lunar New Year, and the days immediately before and after the aforementioned list.

Historically, Council has provided opportunities for exemptions to its By-laws on an as needed bases, including the Noise by-law to support community events and special occasions for both public and private functions.

**REPORT:**

The Township has received a request for the Fireworks by-law exemption for a celebration of a crop and land dedication for the future farming and crop growing activities. During this private event, located at 3180 Bridge St, New Hamburg, there will be informal discussions about crops, land area use, possible future crops and indoor/outdoor vegetable growing, canning and bottling together with possible agricultural sales of grown goods. The event organizer has informed staff that there will also be time of prayer and dedication and fireworks as a celebratory starting point to the season.

The fireworks will be set off from the middle field on the east side of the river, with all safety precautions followed, either Saturday or Sunday night depending on the weather as the objective is to assess the land and identify growing areas, livestock pens etc. and if there is rain in the forecast, we will delay the event from Saturday (June 1<sup>st</sup>) to the Sunday (June 2<sup>nd</sup>). There will be several hundred yards distance from the fireworks to any structure or trees. The event organizers have advised staff that if there is any type of burn ban, the fireworks will not be set off.

The Township of Wilmot Fire Department was consulted and has no objections to this exemption and has followed up with the applicant to ensure a safety plan is in place for the event.

**ALIGNMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF WILMOT STRATEGIC PLAN:**

By allowing the exemption to the Fireworks By-law, the Township is supporting community and strengthening customer service.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

None

**ATTACHMENTS:**

N/A