

CITY OF BETHLEHEM
City Council Memorandum

SUBJECT: Consumer Fireworks Nuisance
TO: Robert J. Donchez, Mayor
FROM: J. William Reynolds, Member of Council
DATE: July 6, 2020

In 2017, the Pennsylvania General Assembly enacted the Fireworks Law, Act 43 of 2017, which allowed Pennsylvania residents to legally purchase much larger and louder fireworks than previously available. Since passage of the Fireworks Law, fireworks have become an increasing nuisance in the City and across the Commonwealth.

Widespread use of loud fireworks, outside of holidays and special events, has become a significant nuisance and is negatively impacting quality of life in the City. Since passage of the Fireworks Law, fireworks are increasingly discharged late into the night, throughout the City, causing loud and unexpected explosions that frighten residents and pets, wake sleeping infants and children, and exacerbate Post Traumatic Stress Disorder symptoms in our veterans.

The attached proposed resolution urges our state legislators to repeal or amend the 2017 Fireworks Law and asks you and your Administration to investigate possible solutions to the nuisance of Consumer Fireworks in the City.

I would ask the Members of Council to consider the attached resolution at the July 7, 2020 City Council meeting.



J. William Reynolds, Member Council

CC: Members of Council
Chief of Police

