



**MINUTES
KEIZER CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
Monday, August 8, 2022
Keizer, Oregon**

**CALL TO
ORDER**

Mayor Clark called the work session to order at 6:00 p.m. Attendance was taken as follows:

Present:

Cathy Clark, Mayor
Dan Kohler, Councilor
Kyle Juran, Councilor
Roland Herrera, Councilor
Shaney Starr, Councilor
Laura Reid, Councilor
Elizabeth Smith, Councilor

Staff Present:

Adam Brown, City Manager
John Teague, Police Chief
Andrew Copeland, Police
Shannon Johnson, City Attorney
Tim Wood, Finance Director
Bill Lawyer, Public Works Director
Tracy Davis, City Recorder

**DISCUSSION
a. Fireworks**

Chief Teague shared information regarding past fireworks-related calls for service. He noted that the fireworks statute is one of only four statutes that says 'law enforcement shall enforce this rule' and it is an unsurmountable problem that criminalizes otherwise law-abiding people. Because it is a crime, it requires the police to develop 'probable cause', which requires witnesses and pits neighbors and family members against each other.

He explained that the City could develop an ordinance reducing it to a violation and described the Tigard ordinance which holds the property owner liable (\$1,000 fine). He noted that Tigard had not yet issued any citations.

City Attorney Shannon Johnson provided additional details about ordinances adopted by other cities and explained the difference between a crime and a violation. He noted that should Keizer adopt a similar ordinance, it could be a useful tool for education and prevention. Discussion followed regarding locations of offenses, education and enforcement, various forms of outreach to explain which fireworks are illegal and inform the community about the new fireworks ordinance, partnering with the Fire District, the importance of educating the public, allowing use during specific times, cost of enforcement, and banning fireworks during times of high fire risk.

Mayor Clark summarized that Council wished to develop a mechanism for citing people for illegal fireworks at any time to include holding the property owner responsible, considering time, manner and place, and to do an education campaign regarding the ordinance. The education aspect should include sharing the impact on fireworks on various members of the

community, promote professional displays, and collaborate with Fire District. Public Works Director Bill Lawyer pointed out that as Director he can ban all type of flame in parks and it is done annually. He noted the Parks Rules prohibit all fireworks at all times.

Council directed staff to come back with a proposed ordinance that would allow for creating a violation and citation process regarding fireworks use within the city limits under the conditions they described.

Discussion followed regarding addressing time restrictions on legal fireworks with Chief Teague suggesting 10 p.m. with the exception of New Year's Eve and July 4.

ADJOURN

Mayor Clark adjourned the work session at 7:16 p.m.

APPROVED:

MAYOR:

Cathy Clark

Debbie Lockhart, Deputy City Recorder

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilor #1 – Laura Reid

Councilor #4 – Roland Herrera

Councilor #2 – Shaney Starr

Councilor #5 – Elizabeth Smith

Councilor #3 – Kyle Juran

Councilor #6 – Daniel R. Kohler

Minutes approved: 09-06-22