

To: Mayor & City Council

From: City Clerk's Office

Date: June 6, 2025

Subject: Amendments to Municipal Code Sections 17.6 (2) and 17.6 (9)

On May 23, 2025, that City Council received a request from the Ames Fire Department to amend *Municipal Code* Sections 17.6 (2) and 17.6 (9) to align with newly adopted state legislation that prohibits a City Council from restricting or limiting the use of consumer fireworks, display fireworks, or novelties products on certain dates. The City Council referred the request to staff and amendments have been drafted for consideration in the attached ordinance.

It should be noted that although the ordinance aligns with state law in allowing fireworks use at designated times on a person's own property or property owned by another person with their permission, it remains prohibited to use fireworks at any time on City property, including parks, streets, sidewalks, trails, or right--of-way.

Staff is requesting that the City Council suspend the rules to pass the ordinance on second and third reading an adoption of ORDINANCE NO. 4558 on June 10. This will allow time for City staff to publicize the expectations for permitted and prohibited fireworks use in advance of the Fourth of July holiday.

Staff has prepared communication to be sent to rental property managers to encourage them to ensure tenants are aware of whether fireworks use is allowed or prohibited. It is important to note that for a multi-family property, only a person in control of the property (such as the property owner or landlord) will be able to request that the City enforce a prohibition on fireworks use on the property. Generally, staff will not be able to take enforcement action upon the request of other tenants.

ATTACHMENT(S):

J. Ziph - Fireworks Regulations.pdf
DRAFT Ordinance amending Fireworks Regulations.pdf