



Council Memorandum

Date: September 1, 2020
To: Mayor and Council
From: Mark Pankhurst, Fire Chief
Re: Open Air Burning and Setting off of Fireworks

Recommendation

That the July 28, 2020 Memorandum from Mark Pankhurst, Fire Chief, **regarding open air burning and the discharge of fireworks**, be received;

That staff bring forward a by-law to restrict the times of discharge of consumer fireworks to between dusk and 11 pm:

1. Victoria Day
2. the day immediately preceding Victoria Day
3. the day immediately following Victoria Day
4. Canada Day
5. the day immediately preceding Canada Day or
6. the day immediately following Canada Day.

That the bylaw include the following regarding the sale of fireworks:

1. No person shall sell any firecrackers
2. No person shall sell any prohibited fireworks
3. No person shall sell consumer fireworks except on the following days:
 - 3.1 Victoria Day and Canada Day and
 - 3.2 each of the seven business days immediately preceding Victoria Day and Canada Day

That staff bring forward a by-law to prohibit open air burning in Lindsay as follows:

1. No open air burning permitted in the built up geographical area of Lindsay.

Rationale

There has been numerous complaints received from residents regarding the setting off of fireworks in the City of Kawartha Lakes and open air burning in the geographical area of Lindsay.

Nuisance fireworks are creating a quality of life and a noise problem in the City of Kawartha Lakes. Complaints have been received regarding excessive noise, scared or lost pets, and disturbing the sleep of adults and children. Restricting the times for discharging and selling of fireworks will help to ensure that fireworks are only used during specific celebration times.

The recommendations for fireworks would not apply to professional fireworks displays as these go through a permitting process.

Many complaints and calls to 911 for burn complaints in Lindsay have occurred because of the proximity of properties in this built up area. In the current bylaw the only type of burning that is allowed in a built up area is campfire burning (open air burning equal to or less than 2ft in diameter) as long as the property owner is able to meet the minimum setbacks of 15 metres from any building or structure and 5 metres from fences, trees, brush piles, property lines, water shorelines or combustible materials. The recommendation would prohibit all types of open air burning in the geographical area of Lindsay.

These recommendations would require support and enforcement from the Municipal Law Enforcement team.