



To: Gahanna City Council
Clerk of Council

From: Mayor Laurie A. Jadwin

Cc: Raymond J. Mularski, Esq., City Attorney

Date: June 10, 2022

Re: Office of the Mayor Request for Council Action (June 13, 2022 COW Meeting)

ACTION ITEM

ACTION ITEM: REQUEST TO REPEAL AND REPLACE GAHANNA CODE SEC. 549.10 PROHIBITING THE DISCHARGING, IGNITING OR EXPLODING OF FIREWORKS IN THE CITY OF GAHANNA

Gahanna City Code §549.10 currently prohibits the discharging, igniting, or exploding of fireworks within the City, except by licensed and authorized exhibitors. On October 27, 2021, the Ohio Legislature passed Substitute House Bill 172, which will permit any non-prohibited persons to discharge, ignite, and/or explode Class 1.4G “consumer” fireworks on certain days of the year. This new law becomes effective on July 1, 2022. Sub. HB 172 also specifically permits chartered, Home Rule municipalities such as Gahanna to opt-out of the new Ohio law, and either ban or further limit the discharging, igniting, or exploding of fireworks in their cities. If no action is taken by the City to opt out of the new Ohio law, the provisions of Sub. HB 152 will become effective within Gahanna as of July 1.

Based upon the recommendations of public safety experts, the Administration submits that the health and safety of the citizens of the City of Gahanna would be best protected and served by opting-out of the new Ohio law and continuing the City’s already-existing ban on discharging, igniting, or exploding of fireworks in the City, except by licensed and authorized exhibitors.

Based on the above, the Administration respectfully requests Council to adopt an Ordinance to repeal the existing Gahanna Code §549.10 and replace with proposed Gahanna Code §549.10, to prohibit the discharging, igniting, or exploding of fireworks in the City, except by licensed and authorized exhibitors. A draft of the proposed ordinance is attached for your review. In light of the July 1, 2022 effective date of Sub. HB 152, the Administration respectfully requests that this Ordinance be passed with an **Emergency and Waiver**.

Legislation Needed: Ordinance
Emergency/Waiver: **Emergency and Waiver**
Vendor Name: N/A
Vendor Address: N/A
Already Appropriated (Amounts & Accounts): N/A

ATTACHMENTS: Red-lined version of Gahanna Code §549.10