

SUBJECT: FIREWORKS ISSUE

I would like to address the Common Council regarding the issue of fireworks usage on the 4th of July.

I request that this issue be put on January of 2022 so that I can have a discussion with the Council.

I believe that our city can become the forerunner of transforming the observance of this great day in a manner that will benefit all of the residents of our city. Once this is accomplished, than our neighboring cities and villages can witness a much better celebratory environment, which they in turn can also implement, which would give a much needed relief to any police department that may be burdened with extra calls for illegal usage.

The following list are ideas in which I hope can be established in a manner that would transform our observance to a more practical and peaceful manner for our citizenry.

My wife and I have only lived in West Allis for a few years. So any of the current happenings during this time are of course unknown.

I understand that those who use the fireworks don't care about whether these products are illegal or not. They just want to enjoy setting them off.

My first intention is to continue to determine by way of contacting the fireworks makers to find out what their perception is about their products.

This premise is where the city can step in and take the lead on reducing or stopping those products from being obtained. This of course is a matter for the police department to handle, with, of course direction from the city attorney's office.

Even though our municipal neighbor, West Milwaukee, has the vendors at Pick and Save and Menards; our city can still work towards a means to ensure that our citizens understand what is expected for a more peaceful observance.

Of course, since I enjoy fireworks as well, there are other ways to allow those who continually get them. The city can designate a number of areas in the city for them to obtain permits, as is directed in the state statutes. Along with this, there should be incentives for them to be willing to go this direction in their celebration.

I have been told that our city parks don't allow for this type of activity. I believe that an exception can be made.

Of course, to go this route, the city would need a system in place to ensure that this new way of

celebrating is followed. This is where the rest of our citizenry can assist. I have learned that we have neighborhood assoc., which I intend to join once I get that information, and I will discuss this with them in the process, but to establish the guidelines of how this new system is to be operated, falls to the Common Council, with of course, the legal guidance from the city attorney.

My idea is for the assoc. to obtain guidelines from the council and police department to allow them to be able to address the issues that arise during the transformation. To be more specific, I relate an experience that I had this past 4th:

one of my neighbors had set off a "banger" in our ally. I called the police dept. They arrived 1/2 hour later, of course, they couldn't do anything.

I believe to solve this issue, the city needs to have informational meetings to inform the citizenry that we as a city will be observing the 4th in the way that I have suggested.

In addition, the neighborhood assoc. can begin to reach out to the citizenry this Spring and early Summer to inform and obtain understanding of the benefits of my suggestions.

I can do little on my own.

This indeed a group effort.

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