

SUMMIT TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

**Public Hearing
February 4, 2019**

Chairman Welka called a public hearing of the Board of Supervisors to order at 6:01 p.m. followed by the salute to the flag. Supervisors Lee and Davis were present, as were, Solicitor Christopher Sennett, Zoning Administrator Miller, Engineer Jonas, Secretary Yeast, and five interested persons.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Welka explained that the purpose of this hearing is to receive public input regarding the proposed adoption of Ordinance #2019-03, an ordinance regulating the use of fireworks within the Township, providing for definitions, establishing provisions regarding the use, sale and storage of consumer fireworks, establishing a permitting procedure for the use of display fireworks, providing for the authority for prosecution of unauthorized sale and display of fireworks, providing penalties for unauthorized sale or use of fireworks and providing for severability, repealer, and an effective date.

PURPOSE OF
HEARING:
Fireworks ordinance

Solicitor Sennett further explained that in Act 43 of 2017 revised the Tax Reform Code of 1971 and changed Pennsylvania's law regarding the use and sale of fireworks within the Commonwealth. In order to allow large-scale commercial fireworks displays within Summit Township under Act 43, the Township needed to adopt an Ordinance establishing a permit process. The Fireworks Ordinance directly mirrors the provisions of Pennsylvania law regarding the sale and use of consumer and display fireworks. The PA State Police will still enforce any violations of Pennsylvania law and the Fireworks Ordinance.

PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Welka confirmed that permits will only be required for large scale, commercial display fireworks and not consumer fireworks.

John Jensen, 5721 Quirk Dr., and owner of the Sommerlyst Club on Cherry St. Extension, expressed concern that this ordinance will affect the annual Fourth of July fireworks set off at Sommerlyst. Supervisor Welka confirmed that the Sommerlyst fireworks are consumer fireworks. Solicitor Sennett added that the only concern Mr. Jensen should have is if he does not comply with the requirements listed for consumer fireworks. Zoning Administrator Miller added that without a Summit Township Ordinance regulating fireworks, no one would be able to set off a commercial and professional display.

Downia Glass, 9242 Old French Road, expressed concern that fireworks are frequently set off at Picnicana Park. The Board responded that fireworks would not be permitted at any of our parks.

HEARING CLOSED

With no further input from the public, motion by Lee, seconded by Davis to close the Public Hearing at 6:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christene S. Yeast
Recording Secretary
02/1/2019