

Tammy Hodgman

From: Tony Plante
Sent: Thursday, September 01, 2016 8:18 AM
To: Tammy Hodgman
Subject: RE: concern about fireworks

Thanks. Please add to Council correspondence for the 9/13 meeting.

Tony Plante, Town Manager
Town of Windham
8 School Road
Windham, ME 04062

207-892-1907 x1121
207-892-1910 fax
207-233-0806 cell

NOTICE: Under Maine's Freedom of Access Act ("Right to Know" law) documents – including emails – in the possession of public officials about town business are considered public records. This means if anyone asks to see it, we are required to provide it. There are very few exceptions. We welcome citizen comments and want to hear from our constituents, but please keep in mind that what you write in an email is not private and will be made available to any interested party.

From: Tammy Hodgman
Sent: Thursday, September 01, 2016 8:15 AM
To: Tony Plante
Cc: susanearls1@gmail.com
Subject: FW: concern about fireworks

Of course. Have a nice day.

From: Susan Earls [<mailto:susanearls1@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, August 31, 2016 9:54 PM
To: Tammy Hodgman
Subject: Fwd: concern about fireworks

Hi Tammy,

I tried to send this to the town manager but for some reason, the email would not go through to him. Can you please forward this email to him for me?

Thanks so much,

Susan Earls

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Susan Earls** <susanearls1@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Aug 31, 2016 at 9:52 PM

Subject: concern about fireworks

To: roymoore@windhammaine.us, donna.chapman@windhammaine.us, robertmuir@windhammaine.us, davidnadeau@windhammaine.us, timnangle@windhammaine.us, denniswelch@windhammaine.us

Cc: Stephen Earls <steveearls2000@yahoo.com>

Dear Councilmen and Councilwomen,

I am emailing you to implore you to enact a local ordinance to restrict the use of fireworks in Windham; particularly on the lake. My husband and I have owned lakefront property in Windham for 20 years. Since the legalization of fireworks in Maine, we no longer have the little paradise that we worked so hard to purchase many years ago. We now hear fireworks just about every night of the week on the lake; quite often right next to our property. On weekends, the fireworks go off all evening; we have even been startled awake while we are asleep. Just recently, we were sitting outside enjoying a quiet evening when our neighbor started setting off fireworks. It was so unexpected and so loud, we thought that it was an explosion and our hearts started pounding; our evening was ruined and we had to go inside. There have been many articles published and studies conducted (including those cited by the World Health Organization) that indicate the negative impact on human and animal health due to exposure to excessive noise

(<http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2015/06/20/noise-pollution.aspx>). I can't imagine how people who are ill or have young children or pets deal with this excessive noise. The loons are also disturbed and cry out. In addition to disturbing the peace for homeowners and wildlife, we often find debris from fireworks in the lake and have found burn marks on our boat cover and the carpeting on our float. The properties on the lake are close together, has the town addressed this safety concern? Has the environmental impact to the lake been evaluated? We don't have a problem with fireworks on the July 4th holiday or on New Year's; we expect it and can prepare for it (ex: cover our float and take our boat cover off); but the unrestricted use is excessive and it is unfair for the quality of our lives and other homeowners to be so negatively impacted every night during the summer. I ask each one of you to consider how you would feel if someone sat outside your home all night, every night of the week during the summer and set off fireworks and left the debris on your front lawn.

Thank you for your consideration,

Susan Earls
209 Smith Rd.