

## Tony Plante

---

**From:** Donna Chapman  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 7:37 PM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please do not vote to require a fire permit for fireworks

Donna Chapman  
Windham Town Council  
South District  
Chairwoman  
Parks and Recreation Committee  
Natural Resource Advisory Committee  
207-893-8584 Home  
207-310-1583 Mobile

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Steve Kudlach <[steve.kudlach@somebigs.org](mailto:steve.kudlach@somebigs.org)>  
**Date:** September 23, 2016 at 1:35:28 PM EDT  
**To:** "[roymooore@windhammaine.us](mailto:roymooore@windhammaine.us)" <[roymooore@windhammaine.us](mailto:roymooore@windhammaine.us)>, "[donnachapman@windhammaine.us](mailto:donnachapman@windhammaine.us)", "[bobmuir@windhammaine.us](mailto:bobmuir@windhammaine.us)" <[bobmuir@windhammaine.us](mailto:bobmuir@windhammaine.us)>, "[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)" <[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)>, "[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)" <[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)>, "[denniswelch@windhammaine.us](mailto:denniswelch@windhammaine.us)" <[denniswelch@windhammaine.us](mailto:denniswelch@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject:** Please do not vote to require a fire permit for fireworks

Dear Council members,

Reviewing the Council's next agenda I was so surprised to read a draft proposal for fireworks in Windham. What exactly is wrong with our present ordinance? Today I spoke with neighbors and none of our neighbors were aware of the proposal to demand for a fire permit to be secured. I know that there are some community members who object to the noise but we already have a clear ordinance that spells out when it is acceptable use fireworks. The inclusion of a needed fire permit smacks of over regulation being submitted simply to detour the availability to use fireworks. Can you state the need for such ? I assume you can provide me with a number of fires that have been caused in Windham by fireworks since the law allowing citizens to use them came into effect? I would rather see a law making an individual personally responsible if they start a fire with or without a permit, then to fine me because I did not know on a Thursday that I needed to take time off of my job on Friday to leave work to get a permit in case I decided to set off fireworks Sunday night. I often do not know ahead of time when the wind conditions will be safely best, when I have suddenly have company that would enjoy staying after dark to watch fireworks or when my teenage son might approach me to ask if friends can come roast marshmallows (in a legal grill) and watch fireworks. For me the entire issue is that once the ordinance is past this would require me to know ahead of time exactly when my family would enjoy fireworks. I ALWAYS make my final decision based on weather conditions and wind which can change in an instant.

As I mentioned before, this would also require any resident who works outside of Windham to have to miss work to physically come (before 4:25pm) in to apply for a permit that if the wind changes they won't use anyway. I'd like to propose 2 compromise solutions that meets the desire of the fire departments increased safety while removing the burden of residents having to physically come apply for a fire permit every time they MIGHT set off fireworks.

- First: If it is deemed essential based on actual Windham fire history, can we set up a manner that this be done over the phone/internet as is presently done at the [burningpermit.com](http://burningpermit.com) website. This would allow citizens the ability to not miss work, get updated fire level safety concerns and be registered with department. I already pay my taxes, register for classes/sporting teams, sign up for department of recreation events and even register my car on line. If the desire to mandate a fire permit is really totally a safety issue and not intending to simply create barriers to legal activities then why can't we meet the desired result without causing hardships of transportation and work hours? This could be added to the existing "[burningpermit.com](http://burningpermit.com) website that Windham presently uses. One issue that would need to be addressed is that for some unknown reason there is a weird limit on simple backyard fire permits. Did you know the present [burningpermit.com](http://burningpermit.com) system states only "25 Permits daily on a first come first serve basis". ? Please ask to have that line removed.

Secondly, Instead of requiring our citizens to physically come in, apply for a permit on a Friday while not really knowing if the wind/weather conditions will be safe on Sunday why don't you make it the USERS responsibility (which it should be anyway) to know when it is not safe to use fireworks. Instead of fining for lack of permit you could then fine someone for using fireworks ANYTIME that we have an elevated level of fire danger. There could be a simple fire danger notice on the towns website or a call in line to obtain the most updated fire danger level.

Thank you so much for your time and involvement on the Council.  
Steve Kudlach  
137 Cottage Road, Windham, ME 04062

**Steve Kudlach**  
Program Manager  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine  
207-773-5437 ext. 223  
195 Lancaster Street  
Portland, ME 04101  
[www.SoMeBigs.org](http://www.SoMeBigs.org)

**Our Mission is to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported 1-to-1 relationships that change their lives for the better, forever.**

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## Tony Plante

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**From:** Bob Muir  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 3:31 PM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: concern about fireworks

Bob Muir  
Windham Town Councilor at Large

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Susan Earls <[susanearls1@gmail.com](mailto:susanearls1@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** September 19, 2016 at 8:42:12 AM EDT  
**To:** Bob Muir <[bobmuir@windhammaine.us](mailto:bobmuir@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject: Re: concern about fireworks**

Thanks so much for letting me know Bob. I will be at the meeting.

On Sun, Sep 18, 2016 at 10:55 PM, Bob Muir <[bobmuir@windhammaine.us](mailto:bobmuir@windhammaine.us)> wrote:  
Hi Susan,  
The council will be discussing fireworks at this weeks meeting Tuesday the 20th. I am sure they will be willing to listen to any comments the public has if you would like to speak to this issue.

Bob Muir  
Windham Town Councilor at Large

On Aug 31, 2016, at 9:51 PM, Susan Earls <[susanearls1@gmail.com](mailto:susanearls1@gmail.com)> wrote:

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.



## Tony Plante

---

**From:** Bob Muir  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 3:26 PM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please do not vote to require a fire permit for fireworks

Bob Muir  
Windham Town Councilor at Large

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Steve Kudlach <[steve.kudlach@somebig.org](mailto:steve.kudlach@somebig.org)>  
**Date:** September 23, 2016 at 1:35:28 PM EDT  
**To:** "[roymore@windhammaine.us](mailto:roymore@windhammaine.us)" <[roymore@windhammaine.us](mailto:roymore@windhammaine.us)>, "<[donnachapman@windhammaine.us](mailto:donnachapman@windhammaine.us)>, "[bobmuir@windhammaine.us](mailto:bobmuir@windhammaine.us)" <[bobmuir@windhammaine.us](mailto:bobmuir@windhammaine.us)>, "[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)" <[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)>, "[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)" <[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)>, "[denniswelch@windhammaine.us](mailto:denniswelch@windhammaine.us)" <[denniswelch@windhammaine.us](mailto:denniswelch@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject:** Please do not vote to require a fire permit for fireworks

Dear Council members,

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concerns and be registered with department. I already pay my taxes , register for classes/sporting teams, sign up for department of recreation events and even register my car on line . If the desire to mandate a fire permit is really totally a safety issue and not intending to simply create barriers to legal activities then why can't we meet the desired result without causing hardships of transportation and work hours? This could be added to the existing "[burningpermit.com](http://burningpermit.com) website that Windham presently uses. One issue that would need to be addressed is that for some unknown reason there is a weird limit on simple backyard fire permits. . Did you know the present [burningpermit.com](http://burningpermit.com) system states only "25 Permits daily on a first come first serve basis". ? Please ask to have that line removed.

Secondly, Instead of requiring our citizens to physically come in, apply for a permit on a Friday while not really knowing if the wind/weather conditions will be safe on Sunday why don't you make it the USERS responsibility ( which it should be anyway) to know when it is not safe to use fireworks. Instead of fining for lack of permit you could then fine someone for using fireworks ANYTIME that we have an elevated level of fire danger. There could be a simple fire danger notice on the towns website or a call in line to obtain the most updated fire danger level.

Thank you so much for your time and involvement on the Council.

Steve Kudlach

137 Cottage Road, Windham, ME 04062

**Steve Kudlach**

Program Manager

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine

207-773-5437 ext. 223

195 Lancaster Street

Portland, ME 04101

[www.SoMeBigs.org](http://www.SoMeBigs.org)

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## Tony Plante

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**From:** Bob Muir  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 3:19 PM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fireworks

Bob Muir  
Windham Town Councilor at Large

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Bob & Marcia Wake <[mwarch7@yahoo.com](mailto:mwarch7@yahoo.com)>  
**Date:** October 4, 2016 at 4:47:43 PM EDT  
**To:** "[donnachapman@windhammaine.us](mailto:donnachapman@windhammaine.us)" <[donnachapman@windhammaine.us](mailto:donnachapman@windhammaine.us)>,  
"[roymoore@windhammaine.us](mailto:roymoore@windhammaine.us)" <[roymoore@windhammaine.us](mailto:roymoore@windhammaine.us)>,  
"[bobmuir@windhammaine.us](mailto:bobmuir@windhammaine.us)" <[bobmuir@windhammaine.us](mailto:bobmuir@windhammaine.us)>,  
"[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)" <[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)>,  
"[denniswelch@windhammaine.us](mailto:denniswelch@windhammaine.us)" <[denniswelch@windhammaine.us](mailto:denniswelch@windhammaine.us)>,  
"[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)" <[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject:** Fireworks  
**Reply-To:** Bob & Marcia Wake <[mwarch7@yahoo.com](mailto:mwarch7@yahoo.com)>

As Windham residents, we strongly urge the Town Council to support sensible rules for the use of fireworks. We think it would best protect the greater interests of residents and tourists, to limit explosive fireworks to a couple of designated holidays. Public fireworks shows, or very loud, powerful, or long strings of explosions should be limited to licensed professionals, under experienced supervision. We should research which types of firework have a history of mishap, publish a list, and prohibit their sale. Where there will be a large gathering for a fireworks display, we should require, inspect, and enforce site safety measures, fire-fighting equipment, and at least one well-marked first aid station stocked and run by a trained medical professional. Consider supplying hearing protection to spectators and the neighbors.

We don't oppose the limited use of fireworks by ordinary people -- on their own property -- not in public places, shopping areas, not where they can startle a driver, and not in Windham's historic covered bridge. Smaller and safer fireworks should only be sold upon presentation of a Windham fireworks permit naming the type and number of fireworks allowed, and the permitted place, hours and day on which they may be used. The license itself should list required fire-prevention and fire-fighting measures, and recommend first aid for fireworks injuries and prevention of hearing loss. Permit holders should be encouraged to give friendly advance notice to their neighbors. Unused fireworks should be returnable, and home storage discouraged. The fireworks permit rules can be enforced by fines and/or by temporarily withholding fireworks privileges.

The news should remind us of the devastation caused when woods explode into flame,



and how dry weather intensifies the danger of exploding fireworks. So fire safety should be a prime concern, but it is also the job of the council to protect residents and visitors from unwanted noise and sleepless nights. Maimed or exhausted tourists won't speak well of their vacation in Windham.

-- Robert and Marcia Wake, Covered Bridge Road

## Tony Plante

---

**From:** Bob Muir  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 3:17 PM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fireworks Ordinance

Bob Muir  
Windham Town Councilor at Large

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Julianne Moore <[longears44@roadrunner.com](mailto:longears44@roadrunner.com)>  
**Date:** October 6, 2016 at 12:36:03 PM EDT  
**To:** <[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)>, 'Donna Chapman' <[donnachapman@windhammaine.us](mailto:donnachapman@windhammaine.us)>, <[roymoore@windhammaine.us](mailto:roymoore@windhammaine.us)>, <[bobmuir@windhammaine.us](mailto:bobmuir@windhammaine.us)>, <[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)>, <[denniswelch@windhammaine.us](mailto:denniswelch@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject:** Fireworks Ordinance

Dear Council Members:

I have just watched the Council Meeting of this past Tuesday regarding your draft fireworks ordinance for the Town of Windham. It was pretty evident that the Chairwoman has no intention of supporting anything that would restrict the use of fireworks to a workable solution since she insists that she will not vote for this if the "every Saturday section E" is removed. Does this mean that you need 100% consensus as we do at Quaker Meeting and not majority rule? Her statement that the summer people come up on Saturday and like to use them is unbelievable. Have we come to the point where the dictates of summer people override the wishes and concerns of Windham citizens? Let them go back home and fire off their rockets there and pollute their own back yards instead of ours. The fact that Little Sebago Lake looks like the town dump after the 4th has to be unlawful under some Fish & Game or water quality law. She also mentioned hearing from people in favor of fireworks. I don't believe there are many; in walking around Windham this summer with my petition, I only spoke to one person who thought fireworks were fine and "good for the economy." Everyone else, and I mean everyone, was either in the total ban camp or would allow them on July 4<sup>th</sup>. No one was in favor of an 'every Saturday' solution which is basically no solution at all since it is Friday and Saturday nights in my area now and ongoing. One night rather than two is no help when you are on the receiving end of these rockets. I am grateful for the 150 foot restriction and would like to thank the Council Member for inserting that provision, as I thought it was already in there.

The speciality of fireworks' connection to our Independence Day is now lost and has become a despicable annoyance in Windham. Like anything that is overdone, the constant use of fireworks loses its luster. However, some people seem to go by the old adage that "too much is not enough." No one in their right mind would subject their neighbors to this every week for months on end. It is harassment, plain and simple. There is no redeeming value to something of this magnitude that is so noisy and distressing to people, pets, and farm animals; and God knows what it's doing to the wild life of the town. I had a doe and triplets in my yard earlier in the summer but have not seen them since July 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Town Council's lack of foresight in the beginning has brought about this situation and only makes it more difficult to reach a sensible solution now. Are you thinking of the welfare of the people of Windham or are you just supporting that store at the Rotary? The only thing profiting from fireworks in this town is that store or someone connected with it.

Citizens have a right to peace and quiet in their everyday lives. Other sources of noise are severely restricted by codes. What is so special about fireworks that they can't come under such an ordinance?

I'll see you on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Julianne Moore  
333 Pope Road



## Tony Plante

---

**From:** Tim E. Nangle  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 11:17 AM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: concern about fireworks

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Susan Earls <[susanearls1@gmail.com](mailto:susanearls1@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** September 7, 2016 at 15:22:55 EDT  
**To:** <[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: concern about fireworks

Dear Mr. Nangle,

First let me start by thanking you very much for getting back to me. I'm sorry Mr. Nangle, I do not see the other side's point of view. People are entitled to enjoy their pastimes, however, when it impacts other people's safety and quality of life, there is a problem.

There are close to 100 towns in Maine that have restrictions on the use of fireworks (<http://www.maine.gov/dps/fmo/fireworks/ordinances.htm>). These towns also border other towns and they have no control over the bordering towns yet they enacted restrictions anyway. I understand that the problem may not be entirely eliminated if Windham imposes restrictions but it will certainly help considerably.

Regarding your concern about the police being able to enforce the ordinance; what did the police do to handle complaints prior to fireworks becoming legalized? What leads to resident's frustration is their concerns falling on deaf ears. I believe that the frustration people are experiencing right now is actually going to lead to some ugly confrontations.

According to this article, the previous fire chief of Windham also had serious concerns regarding the fire hazard issue (<http://news.keepmecurrent.com/windham-reconsiders-placing-restrictions-on-fireworks/>). It also sounds like there has been much feedback from residents of the town requesting restrictions but resistance on the part of the town to act.

I will do what you suggested and keep an eye out for when this issue will be discussed at a town meeting.

Thank so much,

Susan Earls

On Sat, Sep 3, 2016 at 6:43 PM, Tim E. Nangle <[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)> wrote:  
Ms Earls,

Thank you for your message. I agree that the fireworks do create an unreasonable noise issue. You are not the only resident who has contacted me about fireworks and understand your position.

Unfortunately, when I mentioned this to the vice chair of the council, he was firmly in the "pro" fireworks camp, along with other members of the council. I felt it at least deserved some discussion, and to allow residents to speak.

There are a few logistically difficult issues that need to be settled:

1) Homes on other sides of lakes that border other communities presents an enforcement issue, we are unable to legislate those communities.

2) Do we expect the police department to investigate "every" fireworks complaint? It could be a difficult thing to do, considering their other "responsibilities". I expect the police officers to prioritize calls ... An ordinance without the ability to enforce or investigate complaints just leads to resident frustration and could set up unreasonable expectations of our police officers. I also have a concern about the super dry conditions we have and fireworks don't mix.

So, while I don't like it, I can see the other "sides" point of view. I also see the fact that consumer fireworks are a popular "past time."

So what I ask of you is this; watch the agendas and bring your friends and neighbors and ideas to the meeting where the council will be discussing these issues. Only the residents of Windham are able to convince councilors that this is an important issue that requires discussion and solutions.

Regards,

Tim Nangle

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 31, 2016, at 21:51, Susan Earls <[susaneearls1@gmail.com](mailto:susaneearls1@gmail.com)> wrote:

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.



## Tony Plante

---

**From:** Tim E. Nangle  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 11:16 AM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fireworks Complaint

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Tony Plante <[atplante@windhammaine.us](mailto:atplante@windhammaine.us)>  
**Date:** August 22, 2016 at 15:50:58 EDT  
**To:** TownCouncil <[TownCouncil@windhammaine.us](mailto:TownCouncil@windhammaine.us)>  
**Cc:** "Kevin L. Schofield" <[klschofield@windhammaine.us](mailto:klschofield@windhammaine.us)>, "Brent J. Libby" <[bjlibby@windhammaine.us](mailto:bjlibby@windhammaine.us)>, "Phyllis A. Moss" <[pamoss@windhammaine.us](mailto:pamoss@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject:** FW: Fireworks Complaint

FYI

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:** Monday, August 22, 2016 3:49 PM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fireworks Complaint

Mrs. Susan Earls, a seasonal resident of 209 Smith Road, called to complain about fireworks use in her neighborhood. It seems pretty excessive. In a nutshell:

- They had to cover their boat and they found burn holes on their covering;
- They are often picking up the firework debris in the lake;
- Occurs at all hours;
- Feels that activity poses a fire hazard as dwellings are so close together;
- They "nearly had heart attacks last night" as boom was extremely loud;
- They have reached their limit; and

- Their quality of life has diminished on lake.

I provided her contact information so she may email you and or email/call councilors. She also may attend the meeting on 9/6.

---

**From:** Tammy Hodgman  
**Sent:** Monday, August 22, 2016 3:42 PM  
**To:** 'susaneearls1@gmail.com'  
**Subject:** Contact Information

Dear Ms. Earls,

Thank you for contacting our office with your concerns regarding the excessive and irresponsible use fireworks use in your neighborhood. As we discussed, fireworks and their use within the town is an issue tentatively scheduled to be discussed by the council on September 6, 2016. It is not a meeting where any action will be voted on, but the council does listen to residents who wish to comment on the discussion topic. As I mentioned to you on the phone, the town adheres to the state law and doesn't have a local ordinance further prohibiting or restricting the use of fireworks. The meeting begins at 7:00. You can confirm the finalized agenda on the Friday prior to the scheduled meeting at <https://windhamweb.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>.

Also, if you wish to compose an email to Town Manager, Tony Plante, he can be reached at [atplante@windhammaine.us](mailto:atplante@windhammaine.us).

Please find the contact information below that you requested.

#### **WINDHAM TOWN COUNCIL**

Roy Moore  
960 Roosevelt Trail  
892-8356  
[roymoore@windhammaine.us](mailto:roymoore@windhammaine.us)

North District  
Term Expires 2016

Donna Chapman **CH**  
46 Batchelder Rd.  
893-8584  
[donna.chapman@windhammaine.us](mailto:donna.chapman@windhammaine.us)

South District  
Term Expires 2016

Robert Muir **PL**  
59 Northwoods Drive  
892-6096 (h)  
[robertmuir@windhammaine.us](mailto:robertmuir@windhammaine.us)

At Large  
Term Expires 2016

David Nadeau  
89 Johnson Rd  
892-7192 (h)  
[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)

East District  
Term Expires 2017

Timothy Nangle

West District

20 Tanglewood Lane  
892-8071 (h)  
[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)

Term Expires 2018

Dennis Welch **VCH**  
27 Abby Rd., Apt. 2  
572-8737  
[denniswelch@windhammaine.us](mailto:denniswelch@windhammaine.us)

At Large  
Term Expires 2018

If I can be of further assistance, please let me know. Have a good day.

Tammy Hodgman  
Executive Assistant  
Office of the Town Manager  
Town of Windham  
PH 207.892.1907  
FX 207.892.1910

NOTICE: Under Maine's Freedom of Access ("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.



## Tony Plante

---

**From:** Tim E. Nangle  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 11:14 AM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: Request

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Joseph D. Pearson" <[jdpearson77@gmail.com](mailto:jdpearson77@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** June 18, 2016 at 21:41:11 EDT  
**To:** <[roymoore@windhammaine.us](mailto:roymoore@windhammaine.us)>, <[donnachapman@windhammaine.us](mailto:donnachapman@windhammaine.us)>, <[bobmuir@windhammaine.us](mailto:bobmuir@windhammaine.us)>, <[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)>, <[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)>, <[denniswelch@windhammaine.us](mailto:denniswelch@windhammaine.us)>, <[klschofield@windhammaine.us](mailto:klschofield@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject:** Request

Dear Windham Maine City Council Members and Police Chief,

I, Joseph D. Pearson, and my family are year round residents of Windham, ME and pay full taxes to the city. As a tax paying citizen and full time resident, Me, my wife, and 2 children age 1 yr 11 months and 2 yrs 10 months wish to make an official request. The request is a law/ordinance be introduced to the city to control the fireworks that create a large disturbance for my family, especially my children, the elderly, other families, and people with mental illnesses.

I live on Presumpscot Rd on the road to Dundee Park. Every evening we hear neighbors shooting off fireworks after sundown. This has been occurring every night this spring of 2016. I am not against one's right to purchase fireworks for celebratory reasons but there should be a set time limit to control the noise pollution it causes at night. The proposal is regulate the use of fireworks past a set time such as 7 PM or only on specific holidays. These holidays for example are the 4th of July, New Years, and other major national holidays.

Fireworks create much noise pollution and disturbance to sleep patterns. My one daughter who is 2 yrs 10 months is frightened every evening. When the sun goes down and she hears bangs, she sometimes wants to stay with us and not sleep. I am mental health worker with a LCPC-conditional here in Maine, and fireworks can be a trigger for people with various mental illnesses such as PTSD, especially for veterans. One has the right to celebrate occasions in their life but at the same time consideration should be given as to not disrupt other people's lives. The noise is the same as someone shooting a gun near your house which itself is illegal. Fireworks create too much noise pollution which is the message I want to get out. Gorham, Westbrook, and Portland all have firework ordinances. I feel and request that Windham ME should have one too.

This is a formal email to request city council to consider my proposal and to inform the chief of police about how fireworks in the Dundee Park area can be very disruptive to people trying to sleep and the bangs can be very traumatizing to young children. Thank You

--

Joseph Pearson  
Graduate of Social Science  
MS in Psychology

Live life to the fullest because we only live once.

## Tony Plante

---

**From:** Tim E. Nangle  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 11:18 AM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fireworks Ordinance

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Julianne Moore <[longears44@roadrunner.com](mailto:longears44@roadrunner.com)>  
**Date:** October 6, 2016 at 12:36:03 EDT  
**To:** <[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)>, 'Donna Chapman' <[donnachapman@windhammaine.us](mailto:donnachapman@windhammaine.us)>, <[roymoore@windhammaine.us](mailto:roymoore@windhammaine.us)>, <[bobmuir@windhammaine.us](mailto:bobmuir@windhammaine.us)>, <[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)>, <[denniswelch@windhammaine.us](mailto:denniswelch@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject:** Fireworks Ordinance

Dear Council Members:

I have just watched the Council Meeting of this past Tuesday regarding your draft fireworks ordinance for the Town of Windham. It was pretty evident that the Chairwoman has no intention of supporting anything that would restrict the use of fireworks to a workable solution since she insists that she will not vote for this if the "every Saturday section E" is removed. Does this mean that you need 100% consensus as we do at Quaker Meeting and not majority rule? Her statement that the summer people come up on Saturday and like to use them is unbelievable. Have we come to the point where the dictates of summer people override the wishes and concerns of Windham citizens? Let them go back home and fire off their rockets there and pollute their own back yards instead of ours. The fact that Little Sebago Lake looks like the town dump after the 4th has to be unlawful under some Fish & Game or water quality law. She also mentioned hearing from people in favor of fireworks. I don't believe there are many; in walking around Windham this summer with my petition, I only spoke to one person who thought fireworks were fine and "good for the economy." Everyone else, and I mean everyone, was either in the total ban camp or would allow them on July 4<sup>th</sup>. No one was in favor of an 'every Saturday' solution which is basically no solution at all since it is Friday and Saturday nights in my area now and ongoing. One night rather than two is no help when you are on the receiving end of these rockets. I am grateful for the 150 foot restriction and would like to thank the Council Member for inserting that provision, as I thought it was already in there.

The speciality of fireworks' connection to our Independence Day is now lost and has become a despicable annoyance in Windham. Like anything that is overdone, the constant use of fireworks loses its luster. However, some people seem to go by the old adage that "too much is not enough." No one in their right mind would subject their neighbors to this every week for months on end. It is harassment, plain and simple. There is no redeeming value to something of this magnitude that is so noisy and distressing to people, pets, and farm animals; and God knows what it's doing to the wild life of the town. I had a doe and triplets in my yard earlier in the summer but have not seen them since July 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Town Council's lack of foresight in the beginning has brought about this situation and only makes it more difficult to reach a sensible solution now. Are you thinking of the welfare of the people of



Windham or are you just supporting that store at the Rotary? The only thing profiting from fireworks in this town is that store or someone connected with it.

Citizens have a right to peace and quiet in their everyday lives. Other sources of noise are severely restricted by codes. What is so special about fireworks that they can't come under such an ordinance?

I'll see you on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Julianne Moore  
333 Pope Road

## Tony Plante

---

**From:** Tim E. Nangle  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 11:17 AM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fireworks

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Stephen Signor <[sgriphen@gmail.com](mailto:sgriphen@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** October 5, 2016 at 18:07:48 EDT  
**To:** "Tim E. Nangle" <[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: Fireworks

Okay, Thank you for that.

On Wed, Oct 5, 2016 at 5:20 PM, Tim E. Nangle <[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)> wrote:  
Good afternoon,

You will have to speak with Mr Plante regarding his comments.

All of the information should be available on the agendas page.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 5, 2016, at 16:52, Stephen Signor <[sgriphen@gmail.com](mailto:sgriphen@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hello again,  
How can I obtain a copy of the draft everyone was in  
possession of?

## Tony Plante

---

**From:** Tim E. Nangle  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 11:17 AM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please do not vote to require a fire permit for fireworks

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Steve Kudlach <[steve.kudlach@somebigs.org](mailto:steve.kudlach@somebigs.org)>  
**Date:** September 23, 2016 at 13:35:28 EDT  
**To:** "[roymoore@windhammaine.us](mailto:roymoore@windhammaine.us)" <[roymoore@windhammaine.us](mailto:roymoore@windhammaine.us)>, "[donnachapman@windhammaine.us](mailto:donnachapman@windhammaine.us)>, "[bobmuir@windhammaine.us](mailto:bobmuir@windhammaine.us)" <[bobmuir@windhammaine.us](mailto:bobmuir@windhammaine.us)>, "[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)" <[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)>, "[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)" <[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)>, "[denniswelch@windhammaine.us](mailto:denniswelch@windhammaine.us)" <[denniswelch@windhammaine.us](mailto:denniswelch@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject:** Please do not vote to require a fire permit for fireworks

Dear Council members,

Reviewing the Council's next agenda I was so surprised to read a draft proposal for fireworks in Windham. What exactly is wrong with our present ordinance? Today I spoke with neighbors and none of our neighbors were aware of the proposal to demand for a fire permit to be secured. I know that there are some community members who object to the noise but we already have a clear ordinance that spells out when it is acceptable use fireworks. The inclusion of a needed fire permit smacks of over regulation being submitted simply to detour the availability to use fireworks. Can you state the need for such ? I assume you can provide me with a number of fires that have been caused in Windham by fireworks since the law allowing citizens to use them came into effect? I would rather see a law making an individual personally responsible if they start a fire with or without a permit, then to fine me because I did not know on a Thursday that I needed to take time off of my job on Friday to leave work to get a permit in case I decided to set off fireworks Sunday night. I often do not know ahead of time when the wind conditions will be safely best, when I have suddenly have company that would enjoy staying after dark to watch fireworks or when my teenage son might approach me to ask if friends can come roast marshmallows (in a legal grill) and watch fireworks. For me the entire issue is that once the ordinance is past this would require me to know ahead of time exactly when my family would enjoy fireworks. I ALWAYS make my final decision based on weather conditions and wind which can change in an instant. As I mentioned before, this would also require any resident who works outside of Windham to have to miss work to physically come (before 4:25pm) in to apply for a permit that if the wind changes they won't use anyway. I'd like to propose 2 compromise solutions that meets the desire of the fire departments increased safety while removing the burden of residents having to physically come apply for a fire permit every time they MIGHT set off fireworks.

- First: If it is deemed essential based on actual Windham fire history, can we set up a manner that this be done over the phone/internet as is presently done at the [burningpermit.com](http://burningpermit.com) website. This would allow citizens the ability to not miss work, get updated fire level safety concerns and be registered with department. I already pay my taxes , register for



classes/sporting teams, sign up for department of recreation events and even register my car on line . If the desire to mandate a fire permit is really totally a safety issue and not intending to simply create barriers to legal activities then why can't we meet the desired result without causing hardships of transportation and work hours? This could be added to the existing "[burningpermit.com](http://burningpermit.com) website that Windham presently uses. One issue that would need to be addressed is that for some unknown reason there is a weird limit on simple backyard fire permits. . Did you know the present [burningpermit.com](http://burningpermit.com) system states only "**25 Permits daily on a first come first serve basis**". ? Please ask to have that line removed.

Secondly, Instead of requiring our citizens to physically come in, apply for a permit on a Friday while not really knowing if the wind/weather conditions will be safe on Sunday why don't you make it the USERS responsibility ( which it should be anyway) to know when it is not safe to use fireworks. Instead of fining for lack of permit you could then fine someone for using fireworks ANYTIME that we have an elevated level of fire danger. There could be a simple fire danger notice on the towns website or a call in line to obtain the most updated fire danger level.

Thank you so much for your time and involvement on the Council.

Steve Kudlach

137 Cottage Road, Windham, ME 04062

**Steve Kudlach**

Program Manager

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine

207-773-5437 ext. 223

195 Lancaster Street

Portland, ME 04101

[www.SoMeBigs.org](http://www.SoMeBigs.org)

**Our Mission is to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported 1-to-1 relationships *that change their lives for the better, forever.***

**Confidentiality Notice:**

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## Tony Plante

---

**From:** David Nadeau  
**Sent:** Friday, October 21, 2016 10:45 AM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fire Works

Thanks  
David J. Nadeau  
Town Councilor  
Windham Maine

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** <[rickfk1ot@roadrunner.com](mailto:rickfk1ot@roadrunner.com)>  
**Date:** October 7, 2016 at 4:44:16 PM EDT  
**To:** David Nadeau <[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject:** Fire Works

Dear David,  
Just watched part of the video on the Oct. 4 TH meeting. I hope its not to late to add my feelings. The fire works issue has been a long time issue with me, I live on Fall Ridge road and listen to residents blow them off anytime they fee like it. I must admit that the smart towns have banned them altogether.(unless professionally done) It's an un needed risk for the town and residents as well. Anything like this that's off the shelf that the public can use is going to be an issue continually for the police and fire people.

In today's world, with gun and terrorism issues, guns could be going off down the street or next door and most likely people would think nothing off it. That's not smart town governing. I'm also a long time resident of Windham ...this use to be a quiet town but has been turned into a fun gallery for tourists and non respectful residents. The 4th and new years is enough for me. Remember the Portland fire? the city burned to the ground because of fire works??

Respectfully,  
Rick Fickett

## Tony Plante

---

**From:** David Nadeau  
**Sent:** Friday, October 21, 2016 10:45 AM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: RE Fire Works

Thanks

David J. Nadeau  
Town Councilor  
Windham Maine

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** <[rickfk1ot@roadrunner.com](mailto:rickfk1ot@roadrunner.com)>  
**Date:** October 7, 2016 at 5:21:57 PM EDT  
**To:** David Nadeau <[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject:** RE Fire Works

Dear David,

Please feel free to share my E Mail with other council members,,especially Donna Chapman.  
Thanks.



## Tony Plante

---

**From:** David Nadeau  
**Sent:** Friday, October 21, 2016 10:46 AM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fireworks Ordinance

Thanks  
David J. Nadeau  
Town Councilor  
Windham Maine

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Julianne Moore <[longears44@roadrunner.com](mailto:longears44@roadrunner.com)>  
**Date:** October 6, 2016 at 12:36:03 PM EDT  
**To:** <[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)>, 'Donna Chapman' <[donnachapman@windhammaine.us](mailto:donnachapman@windhammaine.us)>, <[roymoore@windhammaine.us](mailto:roymoore@windhammaine.us)>, <[bobmuir@windhammaine.us](mailto:bobmuir@windhammaine.us)>, <[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)>, <[denniswelch@windhammaine.us](mailto:denniswelch@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject:** Fireworks Ordinance

Dear Council Members:

I have just watched the Council Meeting of this past Tuesday regarding your draft fireworks ordinance for the Town of Windham. It was pretty evident that the Chairwoman has no intention of supporting anything that would restrict the use of fireworks to a workable solution since she insists that she will not vote for this if the "every Saturday section E" is removed. Does this mean that you need 100% consensus as we do at Quaker Meeting and not majority rule? Her statement that the summer people come up on Saturday and like to use them is unbelievable. Have we come to the point where the dictates of summer people override the wishes and concerns of Windham citizens? Let them go back home and fire off their rockets there and pollute their own back yards instead of ours. The fact that Little Sebago Lake looks like the town dump after the 4th has to be unlawful under some Fish & Game or water quality law. She also mentioned hearing from people in favor of fireworks. I don't believe there are many; in walking around Windham this summer with my petition, I only spoke to one person who thought fireworks were fine and "good for the economy." Everyone else, and I mean everyone, was either in the total ban camp or would allow them on July 4<sup>th</sup>. No one was in favor of an 'every Saturday' solution which is basically no solution at all since it is Friday and Saturday nights in my area now and ongoing. One night rather than two is no help when you are on the receiving end of these rockets. I am grateful for the 150 foot restriction and would like to thank the Council Member for inserting that provision, as I thought it was already in there.

The speciality of fireworks' connection to our Independence Day is now lost and has become a despicable annoyance in Windham. Like anything that is overdone, the constant use of fireworks loses its luster. However, some people seem to go by the old adage that "too much is not enough." No one in their right mind would subject their neighbors to this every week for months on end. It is harassment, plain and simple. There is no redeeming value to something of this magnitude that is so noisy and distressing to people, pets, and farm animals; and God knows what it's doing to the wild life of the town. I had a doe and triplets in my yard earlier in the summer but have not seen them since July 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Town Council's lack of foresight in the beginning has brought about this situation and only makes it more difficult to reach a sensible solution now. Are you thinking of the welfare of the people of Windham or are you just supporting that store at the Rotary? The only thing profiting from fireworks in this town is that store or someone connected with it.

Citizens have a right to peace and quiet in their everyday lives. Other sources of noise are severely restricted by codes. What is so special about fireworks that they can't come under such an ordinance?

I'll see you on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Julianne Moore  
333 Pope Road

## Tony Plante

---

**From:** David Nadeau  
**Sent:** Friday, October 21, 2016 10:46 AM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fireworks draft

Thanks  
David J. Nadeau  
Town Councilor  
Windham Maine

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Julianne Moore <[longears44@roadrunner.com](mailto:longears44@roadrunner.com)>  
**Date:** October 4, 2016 at 6:22:54 PM EDT  
**To:** <[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)>  
**Cc:** <[susaneirls1@gmail.com](mailto:susaneirls1@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Fireworks draft

Hi David: Thanks for speaking with me this afternoon. I have since talked with several people about Windham's draft fireworks ordinance, and they too are very upset about the "every Saturday" clause. It would be totally defeating the purpose if we are still subjected to this bombardment every weekend which is what is happening now. When someone's pastime impacts the lives of the entire neighborhood in a negative way, it's the responsibility of the Town Council to make a decision to ban such activity. I know everyone on the council is not in our court, but hopefully enough of them have the good sense to see what a problem this is. If not, we can always take the route that Norway did and go for a referendum for total prohibition.

Thanks so much.

Julie Moore



## Tony Plante

---

**From:** David Nadeau  
**Sent:** Friday, October 21, 2016 10:47 AM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: fireworks discussion

Thanks  
David J. Nadeau  
Town Councilor  
Windham Maine

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Rosie Hartzler <[rosie@rosieworks.com](mailto:rosie@rosieworks.com)>  
**Date:** October 3, 2016 at 6:53:02 PM EDT  
**To:** <[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject:** fireworks discussion

Hi Dave

I read that there will be an opportunity for discussion of a draft for fireworks in Windham at the meeting on Tuesday, Oct 4.

The draft for Windham looks a lot like the current ordinance in Gorham

I identify with the person who emailed Tony Plante who lives on Sebago Lake - how her dream of living at the lake has been totally disrupted by the nightly fireworks.

Dusty and I live at Highland Lake and are not in favor of your proposed draft - as I read it the draft ordinance allows for fireworks to be shot off on July 4, Dec 31, and on every Saturday between the hours of 12 noon and 10 pm. To enact such an ordinance is in reality, nothing new. To have to listen to the tirade of fireworks around Highland Lake basically all afternoon and evening on a Saturday would wear my nerves thin.

This ability that Mainers have to shoot off fireworks when ever and however they choose (thanks a lot Governor LePage !!) is incredibly disrespectful of people's privacy, sleep habits, animal welfare, and veterans sanity. I mention veterans, because of the way the fireworks closely resemble the sounds of warfare - what are we forcing our vets to live with - even more PTSD than they have already endured. And what about animals, particularly dogs and horses- talk about the terrorizing impact of fireworks. I do not believe that the right to disperse fireworks is somehow good for the Maine economy !! Tell me how something so disruptive to animal and people's health can be good for the economy !

I would propose that the town of Windham allow fireworks only on July 4 from dark to 10 pm; December 31 from dark until 10 pm - and that these fireworks are only allowed with a permit !!

Some of the recently exploded fireworks at Highland lake sound very very loud. How does one know that the fireworks that are sent off are within the bounds of the limited fireworks as outlined in the

Gorham ordinance? How does one know that the fireworks are within the stated guidelines as outlined in the Gorham ordinance.

Finally, it is documented that with the exploding of fireworks comes the increased exposure of our lakes to Phosphorus - a by product of the explosion of the fireworks. Our lakes do not need any more influx of phosphorous, as this is the primary contributor to algae blooms - a phenomenon that increases year by year in Highland Lake.

Thanks for your consideration of my ideas. I am unable to attend the meeting tomorrow but wanted to let you know what Dusty and I are thinking .

Thank you for your service to the town of Windham !

*Rosie Hartzler*  
*RosieWorks*  
*35 Beach Road*  
*Windham, Maine 04062*  
[rosie@rosieworks.com](mailto:rosie@rosieworks.com)  
[www.rosieworks.com](http://www.rosieworks.com)  
*207-415-3727 C*  
*207-892-0292 H*

***Find yourself in the career you love.***

## Tony Plante

---

**From:** David Nadeau  
**Sent:** Friday, October 21, 2016 10:47 AM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fireworks

Thanks  
David J. Nadeau  
Town Councilor  
Windham Maine

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Tony Plante <[atplante@windhammaine.us](mailto:atplante@windhammaine.us)>  
**Date:** October 3, 2016 at 9:50:32 AM EDT  
**To:** TownCouncil <[TownCouncil@windhammaine.us](mailto:TownCouncil@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject: FW: Fireworks**

Email forwarded at Dick Clark's request....

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.

-----Original Message-----

From: Richard Clark [[mailto:rwjbc@hotmail.com](mailto:mailto:rwjbc@hotmail.com)]  
Sent: Sunday, October 02, 2016 7:57 PM  
To: Tony Plante  
Subject: Fireworks

Tony, I would appreciate it if you would forward my message to all the members of the town council. Thanks

Sent from Dick's iPad



Begin forwarded message:

## Fireworks

As a long time resident of Windham, I'd like to add my voice to the conversation that I understand that the town council is going to have in the future about fireworks. Fireworks are fun, exciting and if properly used, they are the traditional centerpiece of our patriotic celebration of American Independence.

But now that Maine law has introduced new lenience, some towns, including Windham, have not imposed sensible restrictions.

This past summer my stretch of shore on Sebago Lake Has become almost literally under fire, NOT just on the fourth of July, but for the entire summer season. It started in mid June and continued through September. Lake shore properties seem to act like a magnet for those with fireworks and the tourists and renters apparently fire them off whenever they are here.

When I purchased lake shore property, I expected to, and indeed I do, pay much more in taxes for the the privilege of living on the lake. But we no longer hear the loons, are deprived of our sleep (fireworks often don't stop at 11:00 P.M.), and our pets are petrified. Night after night, the serenity of the lake has been broken by a lengthy and constant barrage of explosions. Unfortunately, the absence of local restrictions has been taken as license for thoughtless use of fireworks without consideration of others.

I'm not against allowing fireworks completely, but let's limit it to a few days a year. That's what some other towns and cities have wisely done. We don't need to celebrate Independence Day all summer long. Yes, enforcement raises some challenges. But so do speed limits, and that's no excuse to not have laws against speeding. Additionally, I believe our police and fire chiefs have expressed safety concerns. Hopefully Windham will consider not only my concerns, but also the concerns of my friends, neighbors and family members by placing some restrictions on this annoyance.

Respectfully yours,

Richard W. Clark

1 Cape View Drive

Sent from Dick's iPad

892-9661. [Rwcjbc@Hotmail.com](mailto:Rwcjbc@Hotmail.com)

## Tony Plante

---

**From:** David Nadeau  
**Sent:** Friday, October 21, 2016 10:48 AM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please do not vote to require a fire permit for fireworks

Thanks  
David J. Nadeau  
Town Councilor  
Windham Maine

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Steve Kudlach <[steve.kudlach@somebigs.org](mailto:steve.kudlach@somebigs.org)>  
**Date:** September 27, 2016 at 11:31:06 AM EDT  
**To:** David Nadeau <[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: Please do not vote to require a fire permit for fireworks

Thanks Dave I appreciate your time. I am all for safety and knowing I would not have to miss work to apply makes all the difference. Thanks again, Steve

**Steve Kudlach**  
Program Manager  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine  
207-773-5437 ext. 223  
195 Lancaster Street  
Portland, ME 04101  
[www.SoMeBigs.org](http://www.SoMeBigs.org)

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**From:** David Nadeau [<mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us>]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2016 2:45 PM  
**To:** Steve Kudlach <[steve.kudlach@somebigs.org](mailto:steve.kudlach@somebigs.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: Please do not vote to require a fire permit for fireworks

I do not believe so.

Thanks  
David J. Nadeau  
Town Councilor  
Windham Maine

On Sep 26, 2016, at 11:24 AM, Steve Kudlach <[steve.kudlach@somebigs.org](mailto:steve.kudlach@somebigs.org)> wrote:

Thanks Dave, quick question, have there been ANY fires in Windham originating from fireworks?

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**From:** David Nadeau [<mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us>]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 23, 2016 1:54 PM  
**To:** Steve Kudlach <[steve.kudlach@somebigs.org](mailto:steve.kudlach@somebigs.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: Please do not vote to require a fire permit for fireworks

Steve

What you suggest is almost the way the fire permit system works today. It is all done on line at no cost. Daily the state puts out the conditions in nature, and makes a decision on allowing burn permits or not. That is what determines the towns to allow or prevent.

Thanks  
David J. Nadeau  
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Windham Maine

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secured. I know that there are some community members who object to the noise but we already have a clear ordinance that spells out when it is acceptable use fireworks. The inclusion of a needed fire permit smacks of over regulation being submitted simply to detour the availability to use fireworks. Can you state the need for such ? I assume you can provide me with a number of fires that have been caused in Windham by fireworks since the law allowing citizens to use them came into effect? I would rather see a law making an individual personally responsible if they start a fire with or without a permit, then to fine me because I did not know on a Thursday that I needed to take time off of my job on Friday to leave work to get a permit in case I decided to set off fireworks Sunday night. I often do not know ahead of time when the wind conditions will be safely best, when I have suddenly have company that would enjoy staying after dark to watch fireworks or when my teenage son might approach me to ask if friends can come roast marshmallows (in a legal grill) and watch fireworks. For me the entire issue is that once the ordinance is past this would require me to know ahead of time exactly when my family would enjoy fireworks. I ALWAYS make my final decision based on weather conditions and wind which can change in an instant. As I mentioned before, this would also require any resident who works outside of Windham to have to miss work to physically come (before 4:25pm) in to apply for a permit that if the wind changes they won't use anyway. I'd like to propose 2 compromise solutions that meets the desire of the fire departments increased safety while removing the burden of residents having to physically come apply for a fire permit every time they MIGHT set off fireworks.

- First: If it is deemed essential based on actual Windham fire history, can we set up a manner that this be done over the phone/internet as is presently done at the [burningpermit.com](http://burningpermit.com) website. This would allow citizens the ability to not miss work, get updated fire level safety concerns and be registered with department. I already pay my taxes , register for classes/sporting teams, sign up for department of recreation events and even register my car on line . If the desire to mandate a fire permit is really totally a safety issue and not intending to simply create barriers to legal activities then why can't we meet the desired result without causing hardships of transportation and work hours? This could be added to the existing "[burningpermit.com](http://burningpermit.com) website that Windham presently uses. One issue that would need to be addressed is that for some unknown reason there is a weird limit on simple backyard fire permits. . Did you know the present [burningpermit.com](http://burningpermit.com) system states only **"25 Permits daily on a first come first serve basis"**. ? **Please ask to have that line removed.**

Secondly, Instead of requiring our citizens to physically come in, apply for a permit on a Friday while not really knowing if the wind/weather conditions will be safe on Sunday why don't you make it the USERS responsibility ( which it should be anyway) to know when it is not safe to use fireworks. Instead of fining for lack of permit you could then fine someone for using fireworks ANYTIME that we have an elevated level of

fire danger. There could be a simple fire danger notice on the towns website or a call in line to obtain the most updated fire danger level.

Thank you so much for your time and involvement on the Council.

Steve Kudlach

137 Cottage Road, Windham, ME 04062

**Steve Kudlach**

Program Manager

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine

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## Tony Plante

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**From:** David Nadeau  
**Sent:** Friday, October 21, 2016 10:49 AM  
**To:** Tony Plante  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please do not vote to require a fire permit for fireworks

Thanks  
David J. Nadeau  
Town Councilor  
Windham Maine

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Steve Kudlach <[steve.kudlach@somebigs.org](mailto:steve.kudlach@somebigs.org)>  
**Date:** September 26, 2016 at 11:24:10 AM EDT  
**To:** David Nadeau <[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: Please do not vote to require a fire permit for fireworks

Thanks Dave, quick question, have there been ANY fires in Windham originating from fireworks?

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Windham Maine

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**From:** Steve Kudlach <[steve.kudlach@somebigs.org](mailto:steve.kudlach@somebigs.org)>  
**Date:** September 23, 2016 at 1:35:28 PM EDT  
**To:** "roymoore@windhammaine.us" <[roymoore@windhammaine.us](mailto:roymoore@windhammaine.us)>, "[donnachapman@windhammaine.us](mailto:donnachapman@windhammaine.us)", "[bobmuir@windhammaine.us](mailto:bobmuir@windhammaine.us)" <[bobmuir@windhammaine.us](mailto:bobmuir@windhammaine.us)>, "[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)" <[davidnadeau@windhammaine.us](mailto:davidnadeau@windhammaine.us)>, "[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)" <[timnangle@windhammaine.us](mailto:timnangle@windhammaine.us)>, "[denniswelch@windhammaine.us](mailto:denniswelch@windhammaine.us)" <[denniswelch@windhammaine.us](mailto:denniswelch@windhammaine.us)>  
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