



**OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

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**SAFETY, UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 13, 2022**

**Present:** Committee members Nick Nunnari, chair; Dennis Sullivan and Amy Havelka.

**Also present:** Council President Dave Greenspan, Councilmember Duane Van Dyke, Law Director Mike Maloney, Police Chief Kevin Bielozer, Acting Fire Chief Mike Freeman.

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m.

**I. Discuss Ordinance No. 2022-57, supplementing and amending various sections of Chapter 1519 "Fireworks."**

This ordinance has been completely vetted by the law department and fire and police chiefs and makes discharging, igniting or exploding fireworks illegal in Westlake except by professionals. It is a result of the passage of House Bill 172 which revises the state fireworks law and makes certain fireworks now legal for the general public. There were concerns raised about safety, injuries, house fires and the effects of discharging fireworks on people – especially veterans with PTSD – pets and animals. Enforcement of the ordinance was discussed. Police Chief Bielozer stated that most complaints are resolved by requesting the individuals setting off fireworks to stop. However, frequently it is difficult to locate the source. Acting Fire Chief Freeman supported the ordinance, stating that without it, there is an increase in risk of fires and injuries.

Dave Steigman, 2433 Glenvalley Drive, expressed concerns about fireworks being discharged by residents at parties next door to homes full of kids and pets, the need to keep residents safe and the risk of property damage. He urged the committee to keep residential discharge of fireworks illegal in Westlake.

Susan Iceman, 23404 Horseshoe Boulevard, had similar concerns and questioned the effectiveness of enforcement due to people's lack of willingness to abide by restrictions and the difficulty in locating intermittent discharges. She was in favor of this ordinance.

Councilmember Nunnari stated that Councilmember Getsay, who was not able to attend, was in favor of this ordinance. Councilmember Sullivan explained that should Council pass the ordinance at their June 16 Council meeting, it would be in effect for this July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.

Councilmember Sullivan moved, seconded by Councilmember Havelka, to recommend to Council that Ordinance No. 2022-57 be adopted. Motion carried, 3 yeas, 0 nays.

## II. Discuss a possible traffic light at Rose and Canterbury Roads.

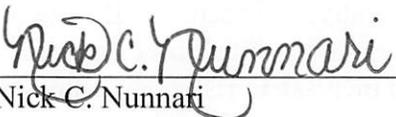
Councilmember Nunnari read an email dated June 9 from Engineering Director Bob Kelly who was unable to attend: "In order to consider installing a traffic signal, the State of Ohio Uniform Traffic Control Guidelines requires a Traffic Signal Warrant Study be performed. At this time, I would recommend that the Safety Committee at their meeting on June 13th, 2022, make a motion to authorize the administration to have a Traffic Signal Warrant Study be performed for the intersection of Canterbury Road and Rose Road."

According to Police Chief Bielozer, there have been 27 accidents at the intersection in the past two years, with 3-4 major injuries. (Clerk's note: Police Chief clarified on June 14 that there were 2 accidents with injuries.) It currently is a 4-way stop with the nearest traffic lights at Westwood and Canterbury, Columbia and Rose, and Dover Center and Rose roads. The process for determining if a traffic light is warranted is long and difficult, but committee members agreed that having a study done is the best choice at this time. If a traffic signal is not warranted, the administration would still have the option to install four flashing stop signs or other options.

Councilmember Havelka moved, seconded by Councilmember Sullivan, to recommend to Council to authorize the administration to have a traffic signal warrant study performed for the intersection of Canterbury and Rose roads. Motion carried, 3 yeas, 0 nays.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Nick C. Nunnari  
Chair

  
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Denise L. Rosenbaum, MMC  
Clerk of Council