



Agenda Item Report

Meeting Type: Committee of the Whole

Meeting Date: September 1, 2026

Item Title: Pavilion Noise Concerns

Submitted By: Matt Amundson, City Administrator

Detailed Description of Subject Matter:

I wanted to provide an update on the discussion from August 18th regarding noise concerns at the pavilion.

Recommended language for revised contract

No noise above 80 decibels or that is plainly audible at least 50 feet from the pavilion is permitted at ANY time, and all amplified sound must cease by 11:30 PM. Violation will result in forfeiture of 50% of rental deposit. The City monitors decibel levels and will deduct said amount from the renter's security deposit for any instance of violation. The current contract says 2:00am, my recommendation for future contracts is to end at 11:59pm.

Decibel Monitoring & Reporting Devices

I've learned that C-weighting is critical for monitoring bass. I've not found a c-weighted device that provides a visual display of the decibel reading within the venue. There are multiple options that send alerts, however, these are devices that could be used in a complaint situation, not physically mounted within the venue. I think our best avenue is to purchase a sound limiter, anticipated cost of \$1500 plus installation. An example is shown below:

Sentry Music Noise Controller



Sentry Music Noise Controller

Features

- Continuously monitors the sound levels
- Cuts the power when the sound levels are too high
- Difficult to bypass

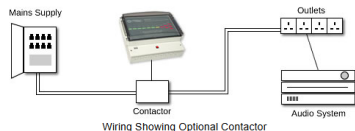
Applications

- Dealing with complaints from local residents
- Pubs, clubs, discos
- Live music venues
- Hotels

Music Noise

The need for loud music in an entertainment venue can result in "noise" outside, which will not be appreciated by local residents. The most common way to control this noise problem is to install a Music Noise Controller, which will cut the power to the amplifier and related equipment when a preset sound level has been exceeded for a given period of time.

The Sentry usually connects between the electrical supply and the power outlet sockets that are to be used for the audio equipment. It can be used to simply control the signal to the speakers, should you not want to remove power from all the equipment, but the usual requirement is to install it in the mains power circuit, making it difficult to bypass.



Wiring Showing Optional Contactor

Draft Letter

Dear Fireman's Park Pavilion Renter,

Thank you for choosing Fireman's Park Pavilion for your event. We want all guests to enjoy their time at the park while also being respectful of the residents who live nearby.

The City has received ongoing complaints regarding excessive noise associated with some pavilion rentals. To help ensure everyone can enjoy the park and surrounding neighborhood, we ask that all renters and guests comply with the following requirements:

- All music must end no later than 11:30 p.m.
- Please keep bass levels to a minimum. Excessive bass travels significant distances and is the most common source of noise complaints from neighboring properties.
- Limit the bass and volume of announcements via amplified sound equipment.
- Be respectful of nearby residents when arriving, during the event, and when departing.
- Encourage guests to keep voices and conversations at a reasonable level, particularly late in the evening.
- Ensure vehicles leave the park in an orderly manner without excessive noise from horns, engines, or stereos.

Fireman's Park is a valued community asset, and continued use of the pavilion for celebrations depends on the cooperation of renters and their guests. Failure to follow these expectations may result in event disruptions, involvement of law enforcement, forfeiture of deposits, or limitations on future rentals.

Please note that due to the increasing number of complaints received, City staff and law enforcement may be asked to monitor events more closely. Your cooperation is essential to ensuring the pavilion remains available for future rentals and community events.

We appreciate your cooperation and thank you for helping us maintain a positive relationship with our park neighbors.

List all Supporting Documentation Attached:

Current 2027 Rental Contract

Action Requested of Committee:

Further discussion and direction on this issue.