



MEMORANDUM

Meeting Date: 4/13/2026

To: Town of Grand Lake Board of Trustees
From: Steve Kudron, Town Manager

Re: Alternatives to fireworks for July 4th

Trustees:

With the current dry season showing no signs of letting up, Events Manager Sarah Weekes initiated a review of alternative shows (drone and laser) for July 4th. More than 20 vendors were contacted with responses from fewer than 10. Of those, fewer than 5 had availability. Staff interviewed vendors and conducted two live interviews via zoom.

After a thorough review of the benefits and costs of both, staff recommend contracting with SkyWorx for the following reasons:

- The show production includes music tracks that can be live streamed via radio and social
- The show is recorded at no extra charge
- Two shows are possible for the same price
- The viewing area is much broader than laser
- Custom advertising can be included
 - Staff strongly support selling advertising to accommodate some of the increased cost.
- Coordination with Town staff to organize a children's coloring contest. The winning artwork could be showcased or displayed during the event.
- The use of a different show celebrating the 250th America celebration provides a good stage to try a fireworks alternative
- 10% rebate for future shows

The Board should discuss the benefits of alternatives and choose a direction in order to make needed agreements required in April.

Suggested Motion: I move to direct staff to sign an agreement with _____ and alternative to the traditional fireworks display.

Or

I move to continue traditional fireworks plans.