

ORDINANCE NO. 2026- 12

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 549 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WILLOWICK, OHIO, TITLED “WEAPONS AND EXPLOSIVES;” SPECIFICALLY SECTION 549.10, TITLED “FIREWORKS,” TO PROVIDE AN EXCEPTION FOR THOSE IN THE CITY TO POSSESS, DISCHARGE, IGNITE AND EXPLODE FIREWORKS ON CERTAIN HOLIDAYS.

WHEREAS, Section 549.10 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Willowick prohibits the possession, igniting, discharging and exploding fireworks within the city of Willowick; and

WHEREAS, certain members of council have requested to amend 549.10 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Willowick to allow residents to possess and discharge fireworks on certain holidays.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLOWICK, COUNTY OF LAKE AND STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1: That Chapter 549 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Willowick, Ohio, titled “WEAPONS AND EXPLOSIVES;” specifically, Section 549.10, titled “FIREWORKS,” and specifically Section 549.10(f) is hereby amended to read and provide as follows:

549.10 FIREWORKS

(f) Possession, Sale, Discharge and Advertising; Falsification.

~~—(1) No person shall possess fireworks in this municipality or shall possess for sale or sell fireworks in this municipality, except a licensed manufacturer of fireworks as authorized by R.C. §§ 3743.02 through 3743.08, a licensed wholesaler of fireworks as authorized by R.C. §§ 3743.15 through 3743.21, a shipping permit holder as authorized by R.C. § 3743.40, an out-of-state resident as authorized by R.C. § 3743.44, a resident of this state as authorized by R.C. § 3743.45, or a licensed exhibitor of fireworks as authorized by R.C. §§ 3743.50 through 3743.55, or as authorized by any municipal ordinance that is substantially equivalent to any of these statutes, and except as provided in R.C. § 3743.80 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance.~~

~~—(2) Except as provided in R.C. § 3743.80 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, and except for licensed exhibitors of fireworks authorized to conduct a fireworks exhibition pursuant to R.C. §§ 3743.50 through 3743.55 or a substantially equivalent municipal ordinance, no person shall discharge, ignite, or explode any fireworks in this municipality.~~

~~—(3) No person shall use in a theater or public hall what is technically known as fireworks showers, or a mixture containing potassium chlorate and sulphur.~~

~~—(4) No person shall sell fireworks of any kind to a person under 18 years of age. No person under 18 years of age shall enter a fireworks sales showroom unless that person is accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or other responsible adult. No person under 18 years of age shall touch or possess fireworks on a licensed premises without the consent of the licensee. A licensee may eject any person from a licensed premises that is in any way disruptive to the safe operation of the premises.~~

~~—(5) Except as otherwise provided in R.C. § 3743.44, no person, other than a licensed manufacturer, licensed wholesaler, licensed exhibitor, or shipping permit holder shall possess 1.3G fireworks in this municipality.~~

~~—(6) No owner of property within the municipality shall permit the possession or discharge of fireworks on or from his/her/its property in violation of this chapter.~~

(1) No person shall possess fireworks in this Municipality or shall possess for sale or sell fireworks in this Municipality, except a licensed manufacturer of fireworks as authorized by Ohio R.C. 3743.02 to 3743.08, a licensed wholesaler of fireworks as authorized by Ohio R.C. 3743.15 to 3743.21, any person authorized by Ohio R.C. 3743.44, any person a resident of this State as authorized by Ohio R.C. 3743.45 in accordance with this Section, or a licensed exhibitor of fireworks as authorized by Ohio R.C. 3743.50 to 3743.55 and Section 549.10(e) and except as provided in Section 549.10(h) .

(2) Except as provided in Section 549.10(h) and except for licensed exhibitors of fireworks authorized to conduct a fireworks exhibition pursuant to Ohio R.C. 3743.50 to 3743.55 and Section 549.10(e) and any person authorized by Ohio R.C. 3743.45 and in accordance with Section 549.10(f)(6) no person shall discharge, ignite or explode any fireworks in this Municipality.

(3) No person shall use in a theater or public hall, what is technically known as fireworks showers, or a mixture containing potassium chlorate and sulphur.

(4) No person shall sell fireworks of any kind to a person under eighteen years of age. No person under eighteen years of age shall enter a fireworks sales showroom unless that person is accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or other responsible adult. No person under eighteen years of age shall touch or possess fireworks on a licensed premises without the consent of the licensee. A licensee may eject any person from a licensed premises that is in any way disruptive to the safe operation of the premises.

(5) Except as otherwise provided in Ohio R.C. 3743.44, no person, other than a licensed manufacturer, licensed wholesaler, licensed exhibitor, or shipping permit holder, shall possess 1.3 G fireworks.

(6) A person in this Municipality authorized pursuant to Ohio R.C. 3743.45 to possess fireworks may discharge, ignite, or explode fireworks on private property with the authorization from the property owner only from 4:00 PM until 11:59 PM on the following days each year:

(i) The first day of January

- (ii) Chinese new year's day
- (iii) The fifth day of May
- (iv) The last Monday in May and the Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding that day
- (v) The nineteenth day of June
- (vi) The third, fourth, and fifth days of July
- (vii) The first Friday, Saturday, and Sunday before and after the fourth day of July
- (viii) The first Monday of September, and the Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding that day;
- (ix) Diwali
- (x) The thirty-first day of December.

Section 2: The existing Section 549.10(f) of the City's Codified Ordinances is hereby repealed in that said Section to the extent inconsistent herewith is superseded by this legislation.

Section 3: All formal actions of this Council concerning the passage of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting, and that all deliberations of this Council, or any of its Committees, which resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Chapter 107 of the Codified Ordinances and Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

PASSED: _____, 2026

 Monica Koudela, President of
 Council

SUBMITTED to the Mayor for his
 approval on _____, 2026

APPROVED by the Mayor on
 _____, 2026

ATTEST:

 Alyssa Moran, Clerk of Council

 Michael J. Vanni, Mayor