

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 2025-02

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL WOMAN HARDIN

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE REAFFIRMING THE PROHIBITIONS AGAINST DISCHARGING, IGNITING OR EXPLODING FIREWORKS IN THE VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD AS SET FORTH IN CHAPTER 1519 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF H.B.172.

WHEREAS, the Governor, on November 8, 2021, signed House Bill 172, amending Ohio Revised Code 3743.45, effective July 1, 2022, allowing any person authorized to possess consumer grade fireworks to discharge, ignite or explode fireworks on their property or, if permitted, on another person's property on certain designated days of the year; and

WHEREAS, H.B. 172 also provides that, pursuant to home rule authority, a municipality may choose to restrict the days and times that a person may discharge, ignite, or explode consumer grade fireworks or may impose a complete ban on the use of consumer grade fireworks, and

WHEREAS, the Oakwood Police Department strongly recommends that the Council of the Village of Oakwood opt out of H.B. 172 and reaffirm the existing ban on discharging, igniting or exploding fireworks set forth in Chapter 1519 of the Codified Ordinances while making allowances for the celebration of our country's declaration of its independence; and

WHEREAS, this Council finds that the uncontrolled discharge of fireworks poses a significant danger to the public and may cause serious injuries as well as significant property damage and disturbance of the public peace, especially in densely populated residential and business areas; and

WHEREAS, this Council finds that continuing the prohibitions against discharging, igniting or exploding fireworks presently set forth in Chapter 1519 of the Codified Ordinances with limited exceptions for the celebration of our country's declaration of its independence to occur on the Fourth of July will best protect the public's right to the quiet enjoyment of their respective premises.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Village of Oakwood, State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That the Council of the Village of Oakwood expressly opts out of the provisions set forth in H.B. 172, and reaffirms the prohibitions against discharging, igniting or exploding fireworks as set forth in Chapter 1519 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Oakwood with an exception for the Fourth of July as provided hereinafter.

SECTION 2. That Oakwood Codified Ordinance 1518.05, which presently reads as follows:

- **1519.05 - Application.**

This chapter does not prohibit or apply to the following:

- (a) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use in emergency situations, of pyrotechnic signaling devices and distress signals for marine, aviation, or highway use;
- (b) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage, or use of fuses, torpedoes, or other signals necessary for the safe operation of railroads;
- (c) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage, or use of blank cartridges in

connection with theaters or shows, or in connection with athletics as signals or for ceremonial purposes;

(d) The manufacture for, the transportation, storage, possession or use by, or sale to the Armed Forces of the United States and the militia of this state of pyrotechnic devices;

(e) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use of toy pistols, toy canes, toy guns or other devices in which paper or plastic caps containing twenty-five hundredths grains or less of explosive material are used, provided that they are constructed so that a hand cannot come into contact with a cap when it is in place for explosion, or apply to the manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use of those caps;

(f) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use of novelties and trick noisemakers, auto burglar alarms or model rockets and model rocket motors designed, sold, and used for the purpose of propelling recoverable aero models;

(g) The manufacture, sale, possession, transportation, storage or use of wire sparklers.

(h) The conduct of radio-controlled special effect exhibitions that use an explosive black powder charge of not more than one-quarter pound per charge, and that are not connected in any manner to propellant charges, provided that the exhibition complies with all of following:

(1) No explosive aerial display is conducted in the exhibition;

(2) The exhibition is separated from spectators by not less than 200 feet;

(3) The person conducting the exhibition complies with regulations of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms of the United States Department of the Treasury and the United States Department of Transportation with respect to the storage and transport of the explosive black powder used in the exhibition. (ORC 3743.80)

be and hereby and hereby is amended to add the following subsection (i):

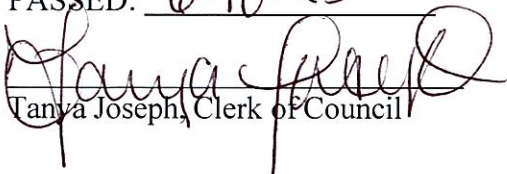
- (i) The possession of 1.4G consumer grade fireworks as defined in Ohio Revised Code Section 3743.01 during the period from June 15 through July 4 and the discharge, igniting or exploding of same on private property with the authorization of the property owner between the hours of 8:00 P.M. and 11:00 P.M. on July 4 provided said possession and use otherwise complies with the requirements of Ohio Revised Code Section 3743.45, regulations adopted pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 3743.45, other provisions of the Ohio Revised Code and the Oakwood Village Codified Ordinances.

SECTION 3. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of

the Village, the reason for the emergency being that the provisions of H.B. 172 took effect on July 1, 2022 and, since that time, the Village has experienced an unacceptable increase in the usage of fireworks that has made it necessary to limit the possession and use of said fireworks so as to preserve the protections afforded the citizens of Oakwood by C.O. Ch. 1519, therefore, provided it receives two-thirds($\frac{1}{2}$) of the vote of all members of Council elected thereto, said Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption by this Council and approval by the Mayor, otherwise from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: 10.10.25


Tanya Joseph, Clerk of Council

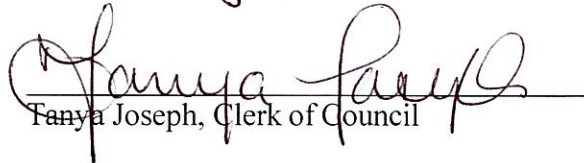

Erica Nikolic, Council President

Presented to the Mayor 10.12.25

Approved: 7.3.25

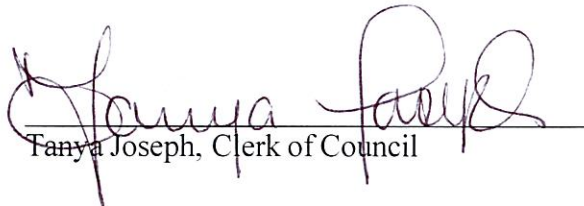

Mayor, Gary V. Gotschalk

I, Tanya Joseph, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance No. 2025-02 was duly and regularly passed by this Council at the meeting held on the 10th day of June, 2025.


Tanya Joseph, Clerk of Council

POSTING CERTIFICATE

I, Tanya Joseph, Clerk of Council of the Village of Oakwood, County of Cuyahoga, and State of Ohio, do hereby certify that Ordinance No. 2025-02 was duly posted on the 3rd day of July, 2025, and will remain posted in accordance with the Oakwood Village Charter.


Tanya Joseph, Clerk of Council

DATED: 7.3.25