

**CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
TOWN HALL**

**September 29, 2015
6:00 P.M.**

MINUTES



The City of Bonney Lake's Mission is to protect the community's livable identity and scenic beauty through responsible growth planning and by providing accountable, accessible and efficient local government services.

www.ci.bonney-lake.wa.us

Location: Bonney Lake Justice & Municipal Center, 9002 Main Street East, Bonney Lake, Washington.

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Neil Johnson called the Town Hall meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed the assembled audience to address the topic of fireworks regulation in the City of Bonney Lake.

In attendance: Mayor Neil Johnson, Deputy Mayor Dan Swatman, Councilmember Mark Hamilton, Councilmember Donn Lewis, Councilmember Randy McKibbin, Councilmember James Rackley, and Councilmember Tom Watson. Councilmember Katrina Minton-Davis was absent.

Staff attending were Police Chief Dana Powers, City Prosecutor Maili Barber and Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Harwood Edvalson.

- A. City Clerk Harwood Edvalson addressed the audience providing instructions on how the Town Hall meeting would proceed. Speakers were instructed to provide name and address on the sign-in sheets before speaking, and were limited to two minutes per person.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

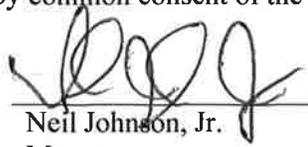
- A. Speakers mainly addressed the topic of whether or not the City of Bonney Lake should enact a ban on fireworks sales and use within city limits. From the comments given, it appeared that 13 individuals were in favor of a ban. They gave such reasons as improved public safety and protection of property, the negative impacts to humans and animals from loud noise and greater ease of enforcement with a ban. One suggested the replacement of individual fireworks with a professional pyrotechnics display on July 4th.

Eight speakers spoke in opposition to implementation of a ban. These speakers gave such reasons as the apparent lack or difficulty of enforcement of existing fireworks laws/bans in Bonney Lake and in other communities where bans have been adopted, the economic impact to non-profits who use fireworks sales as a fundraising tool, the long tradition of family and friends celebrating July 4th and New Years with fireworks, and the economic impact to the City of those private celebrations occurring elsewhere. Some spoke of education, others of enforcement, as the answer to the use of illegal fireworks in the City.

One person said he was speaking neither for nor against a ban, but pointed out the impact to school groups that the loss of revenue from fireworks fundraisers would have on their programs.

III. ADJOURNMENT

After several calls for additional speakers and there being no one further desiring to address the Council and audience, the meeting was adjourned by common consent of the Council at 6:40 p.m.

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|  _____ Harwood Edvalson, MMC City Clerk |  _____ Neil Johnson, Jr. Mayor |
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Items presented to the Council at the September 29, 2015 Town Hall Special Meeting:

- Collection of Signatures – *Ban Consumer Fireworks in Bonney Lake* – Richard Alexander.

Note: Unless otherwise indicated, all documents submitted at City Council meetings and workshops are on file with the City Clerk for the time period specified under WA State records retention laws.