

Ordinance 2025-3
Ordinance to Amend Section 9.04(3) of the Code of Ordinances
Regarding Use of Fireworks

WHEREAS, the Town of Manitowoc Rapids Town Board, pursuant to its town powers under Secs. 60.10(2), 60.22, and 61.34, Wis. Stats., in order to promote public safety, the public convenience and general welfare, adopt the following amendments pertaining to fireworks use, and does ordain as follows:

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Board of the Town of Manitowoc Rapids does ordain as follows:

Section 1. Amending Code. The General Code of the Ordinances of the Town of Manitowoc Rapids, more particularly Section 9.04(3), is hereby amended to read as follows (deletions indicated by ~~striketrough~~; insertions by underline):

“(3) USE.

(a) No person may possess or use fireworks without a user’s permit from the Chairman of the Town ~~in which the possession or use is to occur~~ or from an official or employee of ~~that municipality~~ the town designated by the Chairman to issue such permits. No person may use fireworks or a device listed under sub. (1)(e) to (g) or (i) to (n) while attending a fireworks display for which a permit has been issued to a person listed under par. (c)1. to 5. Or under par. (c)6. If the display is open to the general public.

(b) Paragraph (a) does not apply to:

1. The Town, but municipal fire and law enforcement officials shall be notified of the proposed use of fireworks at least 2 days in advance.
2. The possession or use of explosives in accordance with rules or general orders of the Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations.
3. The disposal of hazardous substances in accordance with rules adopted by the Department of Natural Resources.
4. The possession or use of explosive or combustible materials in any manufacturing process.
5. The possession or use of explosive or combustible materials in connection with classes conducted by institutions of education.
6. A possessor or manufacturer of explosives in possession of a license or permit under 18 USC 841 to 848 if the possession of the fireworks is authorized under the license or permit.
7. The possession or use of fireworks on the Friday and Saturday before and after the 4th of July, as well as July 3rd and 4th. No use shall occur after 10:30 p.m.

(c) A permit under this subsection may be issued only to the following:

1. A public authority.
2. A fair association.
3. An amusement park.
4. A park board.
5. A civic organization.
6. A group of residents or nonresident individuals.
7. An agricultural producer for the protection of crops from

predatory birds or animals.

(d) A person issued a permit for crop protection shall erect appropriate warning signs disclosing the use of fireworks for crop protection.

(e) The person issuing a permit under this subsection may require an indemnity bond with good and sufficient sureties or policy of liability insurance for the payment of all claims that may arise by reason of injuries to person or property from the handling, use or discharge of fireworks under the permit. The bond or policy, if required, shall be taken in the name of the Town wherein the fireworks are to be used, and any person injured thereby may bring an action on the bond or policy in the person's own name to recover the damage the person has sustained, but the aggregate liability of the surety or insurer to all persons shall not exceed the amount of the bond or policy. The bond or policy, if required, together with a copy of the permit shall be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Town.

(f) A permit under this subsection shall specify all of the following:

1. The name and address of the permit holder.
2. The date on and after which fireworks may be purchased.
3. The kind and quantity of fireworks which may be purchased.
4. The date and location of permitted use.
5. Other special conditions prescribed by ordinance.

(g) A copy of a permit under the subsection shall be given to municipal fire or law enforcement official at least 2 days before the date of authorized use.

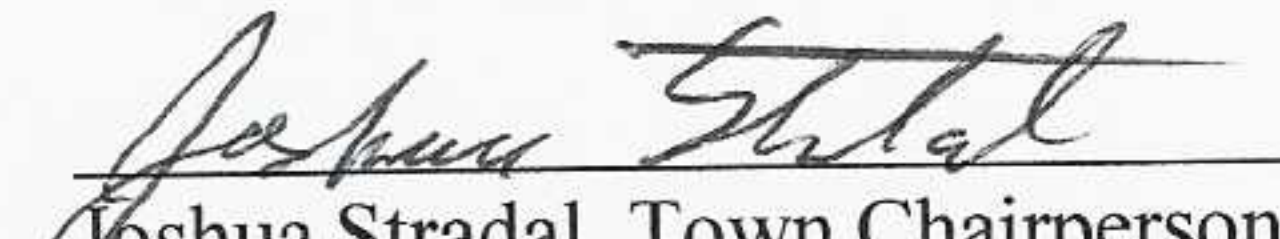
(h) A permit under this subsection may not be issued to a minor."

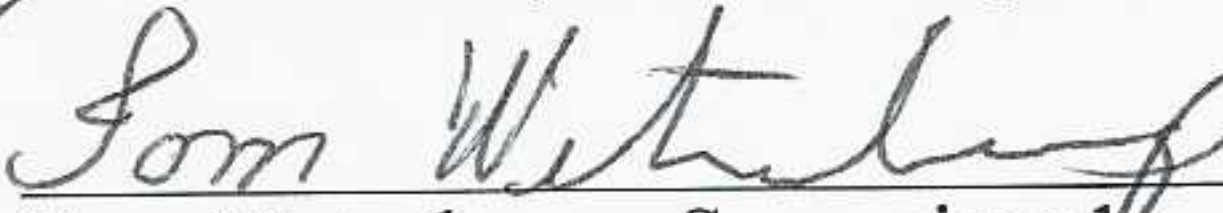
Section 2. Severability. Should any portion of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder shall not be affected.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect upon enactment and publication as required by law.

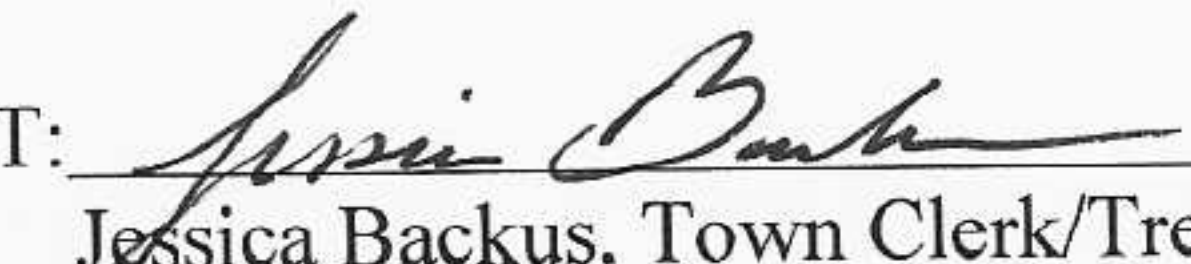
Enacted this 8th day of October, 2025.

TOWN OF MANITOWOC RAPIDS


Joshua Stradal, Town Chairperson


Tom Wetenkamp, Supervisor 1


John Jost, Supervisor 2

ATTEST: 
Jessica Backus, Town Clerk/Treasurer

Posted: October 8, 2025