



**News Release of June 26, 2020**  
**CORRECTION – JULY 1, 2020**



**4<sup>th</sup> of JULY FIREWORKS ON TRACK;  
SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS**

The traditional City of Alpena 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks will move forward as scheduled. The event is made possible by tremendous community support, the Alpena Chamber of Commerce, and the LaFarge Alpena Plant. As in the past, the show will be fired from Mich-e-ke-wis Park near the water plant.

**CONTACT**

Rachel Smolinski  
City Manager  
989-354-1700, press 9

or

Bill Forbush  
Fire Chief  
989-354-1840

Those in attendance are required to comply with social distancing guidelines and encouraged to wear masks when possible. Ideal vantage points may be in your vehicle near Mich-e-ke-wis, near the City Harbor or from a boat on the water. City parks will remain open for pedestrians with appropriate social distancing.

City staff will be on hand to make sure that everything goes smoothly, and residents can enjoy this important celebration of our nation's independence while providing for the safest experience possible for all. For questions please contact the City Manager's office at 354-1711 or the Fire Chief at 354-1840.

**UPDATED INFORMATION AS OF JULY 1, 2020**

The Michigan Fireworks Safety Act has been amended several times, and there is confusion as to its requirements and those of the City ordinance. A previous City media release was incorrect, and this one is intended to clarify it and present the correct information, taken directly from the ordinance regarding use of "consumer fireworks":

Section 38-4 (2) "No person shall ignite, discharge or use fireworks within the city at any time, except on the following dates after 11:00 a.m.:

June 29 to July 4 until 11:45 p.m. on each of those days.

The use of low-impact fireworks is permitted year-round.

Chinese lanterns, sky lanterns and/or Kongming lanterns or any similar devices are not classified as "fireworks" and are therefore not regulated by the State Fireworks Safety Act. In the interest of public safety, the sale,



storage, possession or use of Chinese lanterns, sky lanterns and/or Kongming lanterns or any similar devices within the city is prohibited.”

The attached flyer from the State Fire Marshals Office clarifies the different classifications of fireworks as referenced in the ordinance.

Violations of the ordinance are typically handled by the Alpena Police Department.

For more information, contact Fire Chief Bill Forbush at (989) 354-1840.