

To: COUNCIL
Meeting Date: 3/25/2025
Subject: Noise By-law Exemption – Champs for Charity Boxing Event
Submitted By: Jennifer Shaw, Manager of Council & Committee Services / Deputy City Clerk
Prepared By: Danielle Manton, City Clerk
Report No.: 25-017-CRS
File No.: C11
Wards Affected: Ward 5

RECOMMENDATION(S):

THAT Report 25-017-CRS Noise By-law Exemption – Champs for Charity Boxing Event be received;

AND FURTHER THAT the noise exemption request for the Champs for Charity Boxing Event to be held on April 4, 2025 be approved.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Purpose

To seek Council approval of a time sensitive Noise By-law Exemption request associated with the Champs for Chairty Boxing Event to be held on Friday, April 4, 2025 at Tapestry Hall from 7:30 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Key Findings

On an annual basis, as needed, event organizers must contact the City to obtain approval for exemptions under the City’s current Noise By-law 32-04.

Noise By-law exemptions are typically handled through City’s Recreation & Culture staff when they meet the criteria for a “Special Event”; however, exemptions that fall outside of the parameters of a “Special Event” are coordinated through the Clerks Division.

The subject event is planned to begin on Friday, April 4th at 7:30 p.m. and conclude at 11:00 p.m.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with the approval of the subject Noise By-law Exemption.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:

Strategic Action

Objective(s): Choose an Objective

Strategic Action: Choose a Strategic Action

OR

Core Service

Program: Business Permits / Licensing

Core Service: Business Permits / Licensing

BACKGROUND:

The City periodically receives requests from the community for exemptions to the City's Noise By-law for upcoming events.

On February 24th, the Clerk's Division received a request for an exemption to the City's Noise By-law from the organizer of the Champs for Charity Boxing Event that is to be held at Tapestry Hall on Friday, April 4th beginning at 7:30 p.m. and concluding at 11:00 p.m. The event is being marketed as a black tie, Vagas-style fight night under the name The Brawl at Tapestry Hall where after fifteen (15) weeks of training, twenty (20) local business professionals will step into a boxing ring to fight each other. Funds raised from the event will go towards supporting MacKids, KidsAbility, and Scotland's Yard.

The noise exemption is being sought specifically for the outside courtyard space (Gaslight Square) which will serve as an overflow area for those unable to get tickets for the main inside event. The outdoor space will be set up with a large screen and speakers where the fights will be projected with sound and music in a rain or shine 'tailgate' style atmosphere. There is no admission fee for the outside area and anyone may participate. As this is the first event of its kind, organizers are unsure whether the outdoor space will be used and how many occupants to expect.

ANALYSIS:

The subject Noise By-law Exemption is being sought for Friday, April 4th as part of the Champs for Charity Boxing Event. Organizers have provided a schedule for the event which is outlined below with start times for planned programming. Given the scale of the event, there is likely to be an impact to residents in the area from noise stemming from the outdoor portion of the event, should the overflow space be used. The City's current Noise By-law stipulates that no person shall make or permit unusual noises, or noises likely to disturb the inhabitants of the municipality.

Schedule for the Champs for Charity Boxing Event

The below schedule has been provided by the event organizer for Council's information in consideration of the Noise Exemption request. While the schedule is for the indoor ticketed portion of the event, it provides some indication of when the most noise may be anticipated for those attending the "tailgate" style / outdoor portion of the event which is free and open to the public:

- 5:30 p.m. - Cocktail Hour
- 6:30 p.m. – Dinner
- 7:30 p.m. – Boxing Begins
- 11:00 p.m. – Afterparty at the Underwing

More information on the event can be found on the Champs for Chairty website, Gaslight District Event Calendar and Explore Waterloo Events Calendar.

EXISTING POLICY / BY-LAW(S):

Section 2(2) of the City's current Noise By-law 32-04 permits for event organizers to request special exemption status to allow for noise beyond certain times.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact.

PUBLIC VALUE:

Transparency:

To ensure transparency, the subject request for an exemption to the City's Noise By-law 34-04 is being sought and communicated to Council and the public by way of this report.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE INPUT:

Not Applicable.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Posted publicly as part of the report process.

INTERNAL / EXTERNAL CONSULTATION:

To ensure compliance with regulations and other City by-laws, the event organizer has notified the City's By-law Compliance team.

CONCLUSION:

Upon review of the event plans and in consultation with the event organizer, staff are satisfied that all concerns have been addressed and recommend approval of the subject Noise By-law Exemption.

REPORT IMPACTS:

Agreement: No

By-law: No

Budget Amendment: No

Policy: No

APPROVALS:

This report has gone through the appropriate workflow and has been reviewed and or approved by the following as required:

Director

Deputy City Manager

Chief Financial Officer

City Solicitor

City Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

None.