



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
MAY 28, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jim Holland called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order on Thursday, May 28, 2020, at 5:45 P.M. by remote video conference.

ROLL CALL

Village Clerk Brian Feehery called the roll. In attendance were Mayor Jim Holland, Clerk Brian Feehery, Trustees Adam Borrelli, John Clavio, Margaret Farina, Keith Ogle, Jessica Petrow, and Gene Savaria. Staff in attendance included Police Chief John Burica, Village Administrator Rob Piscia, and Asst. Administrator Jeff Cook.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Ogle made a motion (#1), seconded by Trustee Borrelli, to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes of February 12, 2020, as presented. A voice vote was taken. All were in favor. The motion carried.

Mayor Holland apologized for the delay of the meeting due to technical difficulties experienced with live streaming on the Village's YouTube channel and noted the meeting is live on Channel 6 for public viewing.

CLOSURE OF KANSAS STREET BETWEEN ASH STREET AND OAK STREET

Administrator Piscia reported that as part of Phase 3 of the Restore Illinois plan, which the state moves into tomorrow, May 29, restaurants and bars may resume operations for outdoor seating only. He further reported the Village has created a no-fee temporary outdoor seating permit application and an indemnification/hold harmless agreement to allow businesses to establish new outdoor seating areas or expand existing outdoor seating areas to accommodate dining opportunities in our community during Phase 3.

Mayor Holland reported several residents reached out to the Village and asked the Board to consider closing Kansas Street between Ash Street and Oak Street to allow Trail's Edge, Fat Rosie's, and Francesca's to expand their outdoor seating onto the street to accommodate more customers.

The Village Board discussed the temporary closure of Kansas Street between Ash Street and Oak Street as part of Phase 3 of the Restore Illinois plan. Administrator Piscia explained that the Village would provide barriers and signage for the closure of the streets, noting the restaurants will be

responsible to provide tables, chairs, umbrellas, tents, and fencing. Mayor Holland further explained that as part of the permit application, the downtown restaurants must agree to follow Frankfort's guidance for parking (no employee parking on street or in the Breidert Green parking lot), noting the Village plans to install temporary "Ash Street Business Parking Only, No Restaurant Parking, from 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM" on Ash Street.

The Board further discussed several of the requirements and guidelines established by the Village related to obtaining a temporary outdoor seating permit, including outside dining ending at 11:00 PM, with last call at 10:00 PM, no outdoor entertainment or music, curbside/to-go service plan, trash collection, securing outdoor furniture, and restaurants following Phase 3 industry-specific guidelines established by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO). It was noted that the Village will have the right to revoke or amend an issued temporary permit at any time to take care of any unforeseen circumstances. It was further noted these temporary outdoor dining permits expire when our region moves to Phase 4 of the Governor's Restore Illinois plan.

The Board shared their opinions and concerns pertaining to the closure of Kansas Street to allow for expanded outdoor seating. Overall, members felt it was important to assist our restaurants affected by the COVID-19 pandemic as long as they adhere to the requirements and follow guidelines issued by the DCEO.

Following discussion, the Village Board voted 5-1 by a straw poll to direct staff to move ahead with rules for restaurants and bars who want to expand their basic outdoor footprint and allow the three restaurants to expand outdoor seating onto Kansas Street. Clerk Feehery called the roll: Ayes: Trustees Borrelli, Clavio, Ogle, Petrow, and Savaria. Nays: Trustee Farina.

OTHER BUSINESS

There were no other items for discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comments were accepted in advance for this meeting through the Village's "Contact Us" form, which was published on the agenda. Administrator Piscia reported the Village received 76 public comment emails regarding the closure of Kansas Street to expand outdoor seating – one totally against, three non-committal, and 72 in favor, noting there were comments asking about noise and parking.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, Trustee Ogle made a motion (#2), seconded by Trustee Farina, to adjourn the Committee of the Whole video conference meeting of Thursday, May 28, 2020. A voice vote was taken. All were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 P.M.