

**VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE  
WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

(Official Minutes)

SPECIAL MEETING of the VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Friday, May 15, 2020

Village President Pat Kenny called the virtual meeting of the Village Board to order at 12:30 pm.

**Trustees Present by Phone:** Roll call vote: Trustee Pappas, Trustee O'Neill, President Kenny, Trustee Livingston, Trustee Petersen, Trustee Prudden

**Trustees Absent:** Trustee McGreevy

**Also Present by Phone:** Bob Ahern, Steve Beers, Jeff Cates, Sarah Lobdell, Theresa Loomer, Scott Peterson, Stephanie Smith, Kurt Stimpson, Chuck Thiesenhusen, Scott Vilona

**General Business**

**Consider Lifting Village Restrictions based on Safer at Home Supreme Court Ruling**

Loomer stated she had met with President Kenny and Chief Cates to discuss how to handle Village operations now that the safer at home order has been lifted. She stated they discussed opening the boat launch to all visitors and opening the parks. Loomer explained they had some concerns with weather to open the playground equipment and if it would be possible to sanitize the equipment and park bathrooms on a regular basis. After a lengthy discussion about the options available to sanitize the equipment and bathrooms, Fire Dept. Chief Nitsch volunteered the fire departments fogging machine to sanitize both the park equipment and park bathrooms daily at 7:00 am. The Board decided to leave the water fountains turned off as they are frequently touched. Loomer stated the Board should also consider whether they want to open the fields at Duck Pond to allow practice and games and whether to allow use of the bleachers if use of the fields is allowed. Trustee Livingston stated he would recommend leaving the bleachers closed as the teams that have reached out to him have indicated they would have their spectators bring their own chairs. President Kenny stated that most of the teams utilizing Duck Pond would be travel teams as the local groups have cancelled their seasons. There was some concern that the Village would be held accountable with games and practice going on at the fields and Trustee Livingston stated that all teams would sign a waiver prior to field use. For the beach, Loomer recommended opening at a capacity of 200 people on a first come, first service basis and the capacity could be increased at a future date if deemed appropriate. There was discussion about whether to set a maximum number or just monitor and if a capacity is set, to post signage. Chief Cates indicated that the PD could monitor capacity until Memorial Day weekend when the Village begins staffing the beach. Discussion ensued about the small beach and it was determined that it should remain closed at this time due to the recent construction and newly planted grass. It is currently fenced off with access only to the shore path.

President Kenny asked Chief Cates to discuss the restaurant and bar movement. Cates explained that he has been in communication with most establishments and some are holding off and others are full speed ahead. Cates stated he had shared guidelines with local businesses that were put in place by the health department and made suggestions. Trustee Prudden questioned what Chief Cates would recommend. Cates stated the Village has no authority to restrict activity and can only encourage them to abide. Loomer explained that the Village can not put restrictions on local businesses unless the County places additional restrictions.

Loomer stated Village Hall has been closed to the public since after the April election. Village staff have created an order form for residents to order boat launch passes, parking passes, beach passes and dog tags and staff has been mailing everything out. Loomer explained this is the busiest time of year and would rather not have so many people in and out of Village Hall. Village staff will continue to help residents by phone, through the order form and by appointment. President Kenny stated he feels Village Hall should continue doing what they have been doing. Loomer stated the Village has many outside associations that reserve the meeting room in Village Hall and she would recommend through summer restricting the use of the meeting

room. Loomer stated she would recommend continuing to hold meetings virtually except meetings where it would be beneficial to hold in person such as closed session meetings, public hearings and zoning board of appeals. Chief Cates stated he would recommend accepting park applications as long as groups abide by the rules and keep the gathering to 50 or less people.

Trustee Prudden/Trustee O'Neill 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION to open the park equipment and park bathrooms with the condition they are sanitized once per day, to discontinue restricting access to the launch, to allow the fields at Duck Pond to be utilized as long as the teams sign a waiver and are cognizant of social distancing to the extent possible, to open the big beach with a maximum starting capacity of 200 people and closed the small beach through Memorial Day weekend, to restrict use of the Village Hall meeting room, to keep Village Hall closed and continue the practice of assisting by phone, order forms and by appointment, and authorize park permits for a maximum of 50 people at a gathering.

**Adjournment**

Trustee O'Neill/Trustee Livingston 2<sup>nd</sup> made a MOTION at 1:08 pm to adjourn the meeting, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Stephanie Smith Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Note: These minutes are subject to further editing. Once approved by the Village Board, the official minutes will be kept on file at the Village Hall.

APPROVED: 06/01/2020