

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING (VIA ZOOM)  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2020 – 9:00 A.M.  
MAYOR WILLIAM G. KOONS PRESIDING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Canton, Carroll, Galicki, Nairn, Porter

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Berger

**OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Fiscal Officer Romanowski, Police Chief Rizzo, Solicitor Matheney

**VISITORS:** Kelly Kimball

The Mayor called the Special Council meeting conducted via the teleconference service Zoom to order. The Fiscal Officer read the roll. Berger was absent.

The Mayor requested a motion to allow the Mayor to sign an agreement with Chagrin Yoga to hold yoga classes in the backyard/former septic area of the Police Department. The classes would be held Wednesdays from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. and Sundays from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

Carroll asked if the matter could be discussed without a motion and a second, and the Solicitor stated it could. Carroll advised that he had addressed this matter at the August 10<sup>th</sup> Council meeting because he was concerned about holding the classes behind the Police Department. When it happened again, he was surprised because he thought when he addressed it at the August 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Mayor was surprised it had occurred. Carroll thought there was some miscommunication with the Mayor and the personnel teaching the classes. However, considering the Mayor's email, it seemed like this was not the case. With the email sent by Chief Rizzo on August 14<sup>th</sup> and the Solicitor's opinion on the matter, Carroll thought using the park would be more appropriate for these events rather than the Village campus due to the complications it would create. Carroll cited a situation with individuals who just showed up at the Police Department to do yoga and asked where it would stop. He thought the campus should be for Village business and the park would be more than appropriate for the yoga classes.

Canton stated if they could practice yoga in the park, then the playground should be opened. The Mayor stated this could not be discussed in this Special Council meeting.

Porter asked the Chief for his opinion of the matter as it pertained to traffic behind the Police Station. The Chief relayed an incident that had occurred the previous day where one of two participant vehicles parked in such a way as to block an officer from accessing his car. The Chief was concerned that as in this case, people would think they could just show up at any time and use the back of the Police Station to do what appeared to be yoga. The Chief thought it was best that the classes were moved to the park. The Mayor asked for clarification, and the Chief explained that at about 4:30 p.m., two people showed up behind the Police Department and were there for about two hours. At the time, interviews were being conducted and there were a number of vehicles in the lot. Without notice or warning, these two individuals showed up randomly and were exercising and doing what the Chief thought was possibly

yoga. He asked how to handle the situation if Council elected to not allow classes in the Police Station backyard.

Nairn advised that as the Chair of Properties and the Park Committee, she was concerned about not utilizing the park for these classes, which she viewed as the perfect quiet location with room for social distancing. She was concerned about a for-profit business utilizing the Village campus. The Village was being unfair saying yes to Chagrin Yoga, because when other people would inevitably begin to show up, Chagrin Yoga would become demonized when there was no end to requests to use the backyard of the Police Station. She suggested the classes be held around the new Davey Resource Group pond in the park. It would allow for a large amount of space for each participant.

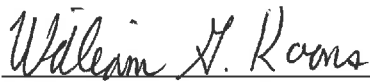
Porter said he was in favor of supporting South Russell businesses, but doing the classes behind the Police Department with the limited available parking seemed like an issue to him. He noted that there were cars lined up on the Police Department driveway earlier in the week, and he doubted the Police could get a cruiser in or out easily. The Chief stated it could be done but was a little dicey. Porter agreed with Nairn that the park was an enormous space perfectly suited for the class and with large parking lots on both sides.

The Chief asked what the officers should do if anyone were to show up in the yard of the Police Department. Carroll advised that they should be directed to the park, that Council would not be hosting or allowing people on the Village campus. Porter suggested including a caveat since there was the Farmer's Market on Saturdays. Carroll asked if the Farmer's Market was a non-profit. Porter stated that although the Farmer's Market organization was non-profit, the vendors were making a profit. Carroll stated that the Farmer's Market could be held at the Park as well.

Carroll reiterated his agreement with Nairn, Porter, and the Solicitor regarding Chagrin Yoga's use of the Police Station backyard and advised the Chief to direct individuals who might show up to exercise to the park.

The Mayor again asked for a motion to approve the agreement with Chagrin Yoga. Hearing none, he stated there was no agreement.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Being that there was no further business before Council, Porter made a motion to adjourn at a.m., seconded by Nairn. Roll call – ayes, all. Motion carried.



William G. Koons, Mayor



Danielle Romanowski, Fiscal Officer

Prepared by Leslie Galicki