

MINUTES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
May 6, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Gary Grasso called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held virtually on the Microsoft Teams platform.

ROLL CALL: **Present:** Mayor Gary Grasso, Trustee Tony Schiappa, Leslie Bowman, Bhagwan Sharma, Mark Stangle, Paul Stettin, Sam Odeh, Ramzi Hassan, and Debbie Hamilton

Absent: Kirsten Jepsen and Michael Simmons

Also Present: Village Administrator Doug Pollock, Assistant Village Administrator Evan Walter, Communications & Public Relations Coordinator Janet Kowal, and Management Analyst Andrez Beltran

MINUTES: A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Schiappa to approve the Minutes from the March 4, 2020 meeting. The **MOTION** was seconded by Mr. Sharma and approved by a vote of 9-0.

CONSIDERATION OF STRATEGIES TO REOPEN THE ECONOMY IN THE WAKE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Mayor Grasso asked for discussion of methods to encourage reopening of the economy in Burr Ridge. Ms. Bowman said that while she had significant decreases in in-store traffic, her consulting business had increased since the beginning of the pandemic. Mr. Hassan said that the pandemic would likely result in a two-year recovery window. Mr. Stettin asked what the consequences of not enforcing the Governor's closure of non-essential businesses would be; Mayor Grasso said such a scenario would be unclear, as there have been few instances of such behavior in the state. Trustee Schiappa said that he supported re-opening the economy immediately. Mr. Stettin and Ms. Hamilton agreed with this statement. Mr. Pollock asked what businesses would want to reopen in the next few weeks even if the Order remains in place. Mr. Hassan said that the national retailers at his property would remain closed but smaller shops would likely reopen if they were able. There was consensus that the Village should explore ways to allow retail businesses to open while the Governor's Order remains in place.

A **MOTION** was made by Trustee Schiappa to recommend that the Village explore ways to allow retail businesses to open while the Governor's Order remains in place; **SECONDED** by Mr. Stettin. **APPROVED 9-0.**

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

No other considerations were brought forward.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Schiappa made the **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting to June 3, 2020; **SECONDED** by Mr. Sharma. **APPROVED 9-0**. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

EVAN B WALTER

Evan Walter
Assistant Village Administrator