



CITY OF WASHINGTON, ILLINOIS
City Council Agenda Communication

Meeting Date: June 1, 2020

Prepared By: Ray Forsythe, City Administrator

Agenda Item: Resolution Approving Outdoor Dining Guidelines

Explanation: Restaurants and Bars are allowed to open with outdoor dining on May 29th when the Region moves into Phase 3 of the Restore Illinois Plan. On Sunday, May 24th the Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity released guidelines for Restaurants & Bars for Outdoor Dining. In order to respond to Washington businesses who were looking for local guidelines, staff worked with the Liquor Commissioner (Mayor Manier) and the City Clerk to develop local guidelines which generally conform to existing Code of Ordinances. The guidelines provide flexibility on the location of the outdoor dining where liquor is being consumed on the premises. The Resolution affirms the Guidelines and provides for the Chief of Police to review proposed outdoor dining locations for any licensed business serving alcohol for consumption on site to ensure that the public safety is maintained during this temporary period. The temporary guidelines would sunset when the Region moves into Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois Plan and Bars and Restaurants would be allowed to fully open indoor dining.

Fiscal Impact: Increased Sales Tax Revenue from business reopening.

Recommendation/

Committee Discussion Summary: Staff recommends approval of the Resolution.

Action Requested: Approval of the Resolution.

Additional Documentation: Resolution; Washington Bars and Restaurants Outdoor Dining Guidelines

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING OUTDOOR DINING GUIDELINES
FOR RESTAURANTS AND BARS DURING
PHASE 3 OF THE RESTORE ILLINOIS PLAN**

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, issued Executive Order No. 2020-07 whereby effective March 16, 2020 at 9:00 p.m., all businesses in the State of Illinois that offer food or beverages for on-premises consumption, including restaurants, bars, grocery stores and food halls were required to suspend service for and may not permit on-premises consumption of food and beverages;

WHEREAS, the prohibition for the on-site consumption of food or beverages was extended several times by Executive Orders issued by the Governor of the State of Illinois and continued through May 29, 2020;

WHEREAS, on May 5, 2020, the Office of the Governor, published “Restore Illinois: A Public Health Approach to Safely Reopen Our State” (“**Restore Illinois Plan**”) in which outlined five phases of restoration and the activities that may occur during each of the five phases;

WHEREAS, on May 24, 2020, the Office of the Governor issued “Restaurant & Bars For Outdoor Dining Guidelines” during phase 3 of the Restore Illinois Plan;

WHEREAS, Tazewell County is part of Region 2 under the Restore Illinois Plan;

WHEREAS, Region 2 under the Restore Illinois Plan moved into phase 3 of the Restore Illinois Plan, effective May 29, 2020;

WHEREAS, the City of Washington, Tazewell County, Illinois (“**City**”), desires to encourage the owners and operators of restaurants and bars located in the City to reopen while Tazewell County is in phase 3 of the Restore Illinois Plan by providing guidance as to the requirements for operation during phase 3 of the Restore Illinois Plan and to temporarily suspend any section of the City Code that conflicts with the requirements set forth in this Resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, TAZEWEILL COUNTY, ILLINOIS, THAT: the guidelines attached hereto as Exhibit A (“**Phase 3 Restaurant and Bar Guidelines**”) are hereby adopted and approved, effective May 29, 2020 and these guidelines shall remain in full force and in effect until the date Region 2 first transitions to phase 4 of the Restore Illinois Plan (“**Sunset Date**”).

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER, that any portion of the City Code that is inconsistent with the Phase 3 Restaurant and Bar Guidelines shall be suspended from May 29, 2020 until the Sunset Date.

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER, that the City Administrator is hereby authorized to make changes to the Phase 3 Restaurant and Bar Guidelines to incorporate further guidance from the State of Illinois, the Office of Governor, other public health officials or other appropriate sources.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 1st day of June 2020.

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

Washington Bars and Restaurants Outdoor Dining Guidelines

The following guidelines are in effect through the duration of Phase 3 of the Restore Illinois Plan. The guidelines are subject to change depending on further guidance from the State of Illinois and public health officials.

- **Physical Separation:** In accordance with guidance from the State, all tables must be spaced at least six feet apart. They cannot be placed on sidewalks or within right-of-way.
- **Reservations:** It is highly recommended that bars and restaurants only allow outdoor dining through a reservation system.
- **Emergency Access:** Tables can be placed anywhere on private property but must not block entrances, exits, fire lanes, fire hydrants, or ADA parking spaces. ADA parking spaces may be moved as long as they do not violate the Americans With Disabilities Act.
- **Dining Space Delineation:** There must be a clear delineation between the dining area and any designated parking spaces and aisles. Options for a barrier can include, but are not limited to, construction barricades, traffic cones, granite blocks, bollards, planter boxes, hay bales, and fencing.
- **Tents:** Outdoor dining is allowed either with or without a tent. If tents are utilized, they must be at least 50% open and tables must be within eight feet from any opening according to State guidelines.
- **Hours of Operation:** A bar or restaurant is allowed to establish its desired hours of operation provided that it does not violate its liquor license (if applicable) and that any outside noise does not violate the City's noise regulations.
- **Bathrooms:** One bathroom must be available at each restaurant. Only one person is allowed in the bathroom at any given time and it must be cleaned by a restaurant employee following each use. A portable bathroom can be utilized in lieu of allowing customer access inside the building.
- **Lighting:** Portable lighting can be utilized provided it is directed solely on the subject property and is shut off within one hour of the closing to the public.
- **Use of Adjacent Properties:** Adjacent properties can be used for customer seating following consent from the property owner.
- **Building Permits:** No building or sign permits are required as part of any modifications done to conform to the outdoor dining regulations.
- **Alcohol:** Any licensed business serving alcohol for consumption on site must adhere to a site plan submitted to and approved by the Police Department. Licensees authorized to sell packaged liquor for carry out may continue to do so but may not allow consumption on site without an approved site plan.