


The Village of Northfield

TO: CHAIRMAN BILL VASELOPULOS AND MEMBERS
OF THE PLAN & ZONING COMMISSION

FROM: STEVE GUTIERREZ 
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

MEETING DATE: February 4, 2019

SUBJECT: Zoning Code Text Amendment – Noise Regulations

A hearing regarding an amendment to the Village's noise regulations was initiated at the Plan & Zoning Commission's January 2 meeting. In an effort to encourage more public participation, the Commission continued the hearing until February 4 and asked that public hearing signs be posted at the parks. Signs were posted at each park and staff has posted an update on the hearings on the Village website and via social media.

NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES

The Commission also asked staff to research how neighboring communities are regulating noise from park and school district special events. We contacted Winnetka, Glencoe, Wilmette, Northbrook, Kenilworth, Glenview and Highland Park and read the noise regulations in each of their Village Codes.

The communities used a variety of standards to determine if a noise was a violation including: whether a 'reasonable person' would find the noise disturbing; whether the noise was 'audible' at a certain distance; and whether the noise exceeded certain decibel levels. Most had more stringent requirements for night time hours and weekends. The reasonable person and audible standards are universally enforced by police officers in the field.

Northbrook specifically exempts park district and school district special events from their decibel level limits. The village codes of the other six communities do not specifically address park or school district events. All seven communities report that they have not had complaints about these types of events and so enforcement of their noise standards hasn't been an issue. A table summarizing our findings is attached.

REVISED ORDINANCE – COLLABORATIVE DISCUSSION WITH PARK DISTRICT

Since the Commission's January meeting, the Village President, Northfield Park District President, Park District staff and Village staff discussed ideas on how to balance the Park District's ability to put on popular community events, such as the summer concert series held last summer, along with everyone's desire to establish reasonable noise guidelines. The following outlines the collaborative outcome of that discussion submitted to the Commission for its consideration:

1. Exempt special events held on Park District property from the noise standards of Sec. 19-3(9) (see attached draft ordinance) during the following hours:
 - Sunday from 12 p.m. -7 p.m.
 - Monday-Thursday from 10 a.m.-8:30 p.m.
 - Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m.-10 p.m.
2. Maintain the 'reasonable person' standard, rather than an audible standard or decibel standard, for all Park District events including athletic, non-athletic or private events.
3. Establish the following parameters for *private* events (*any* event not organized by the park district) that will have amplified sound:
 - Must be issued a permit by the Park District
 - Such permits will be limited to ten (10) annually
 - Permit conditions will require
 - Adherence to the hours noted above
 - Acknowledgement that Village Police Department will be the sole arbiter of whether noise levels are reasonable
 - Private event permittee may seek relief from these restrictions directly from the Village Board.
4. Exempted Park District sponsored events will be limited to the same number and scope as currently exist. Current Park District sponsored events include the following:
 - Eggstravaganza at Clarkson Park
 - Market & Music summer concert series at Clarkson Park
 - 4th of July at Willow Park
 - State Fair/Ribfest at Clarkson Park
 - Movies or theatre in the parks

The Village Attorney has revised the proposed text amendment to reflect this approach and the attached ordinance is being submitted to the Commission for its consideration. He has also added a definition of "Park District Special Community and Civic Events" to add clarity. The Commission should feel free to adopt as many or as few of these ideas into its final recommendation as it deems fit. There may be facets of this the Commission wishes to debate further. For example, the revised ordinance would have the Park District or one of its private permittees go directly to the Village Board for relief from these new guidelines. If the Commission wanted to require that requests for relief go through a hearing with the Commission first, or some other process, that certainly could be a part of your recommendation. Or the Commission may wish to constrict or expand the exempt hours; or increase or decrease the number of events the Park District can hold annually. The provisions in the attached ordinance are not a fait accompli.

GENERATORS

A question was raised at the January meeting about whether the regulations should address generators. The accessory structure language (Sec. 18-2) in our Zoning Code requires a 10' setback as well as some sort of screening for generators. Staff also requires generators to meet a certain sound rating when being installed. The Building Commissioner can only remember receiving one generator complaint and that was resolved. The Police Department indicates they haven't received any complaints regarding generator noise. If the Commission feels the language should explicitly exempt generators, however, we can add that to your recommendation.

COMMISSION DIRECTION

If the Commission is in agreement with the provisions of the model ordinance, it may wish to consider the following motion:

Motion to recommend to the Village Board approval of the model noise standards as presented by Village staff on February 4, 2019.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Revised Model Ordinance
2. Summary of Noise Regulations in Neighboring Communities
3. Emails from Residents

This background material, as well as that sent prior to the January 2 Plan & Zoning Commission meeting, can be found on the Village website at <https://www.northfieldil.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=134>.

ORDINANCE NO. _____

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING
CHAPTERS 14 "NUISANCES" AND CHAPTER 15
"OFFENSES, MISCELLANEOUS" AND
APPENDIX A "ZONING ORDINANCE" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES
OF THE VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD, ILLINOIS**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Northfield, Cook County, Illinois, acting in the exercise of their home rule powers, as follows:

SECTION 1: Paragraph (12) of Section 14-1 "Enumeration" of Article I, "In General" to Chapter 14 "Nuisances" of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Northfield, Illinois, shall be deleted in its entirety and shall be "Reserved".

SECTION 2: Section 15-20 "Offensive Noises Prohibited" of Article I, "General" to Chapter 15 "Offenses, Miscellaneous" of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Northfield, Illinois, shall be deleted in its entirety and shall be "Reserved".

SECTION 3: Section 3-2 "Terms Defined" of Article III, "Definitions" to Appendix A "Zoning Ordinance" of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Northfield, Illinois, shall be amended by adding a new definition, to be added in alphabetical order and shall be added and shall read as follows:

PARK DISTRICT SPECIAL COMMUNITY AND CIVIC EVENTS: Events sponsored by the Park District or the Park District in cooperation with another government or civic entity; the objective of which is to enhance the sense of community in the Village. Such events might include, among others, seasonal youth activities, food tasting, food preparation competitions, musical concerts, theatrical performances, markets and outdoor movies.

SECTION 4: Section 19-3 "Noise" of Article XIX, "Performance Standards and Temporary Uses" to Appendix A "Zoning Ordinance" of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Northfield, Illinois, shall be deleted in its entirety and a new Section 19-3 shall be added and shall read as follows:

Sec. 19-3: NOISE STANDARDS FOR ALL ZONING DISTRICTS

It shall be unlawful for any person within the Village to make, continue, or cause to be made or continued, any loud, unnecessary or unusual noise which unreasonably disturbs or endangers the comfort, repose, health, peace or safety of others within the Village.

The following acts are declared to be loud, disturbing and unnecessary noises in violation of this section (but this enumeration shall not be deemed to be exclusive):

(1) The sounding of any horn or signaling device on any automobile, motorcycle or other vehicle on any street or public place of the Village, except as a danger warning.

(2) The playing, using, operating or permitting to be played, used or operated of any radio, television, musical instrument, phonograph, loudspeaker, sound amplifier or other machine or device for the producing or reproducing of sound for the purpose of commercial advertising and which is audible upon the public streets of the Village.

(3) The keeping of any animal shut up or tied up in any yard, enclosure, stable, house or other place within the Village which, by barking, howling, crying, singing causes frequent or long continued noise.

(4) The discharge into the open air within the Village of the exhaust of any steam engine, gasoline engine, stationary internal combustion engine, or other kind or type of engine, motorboat or motor vehicle except through a muffler or other device which will effectively prevent loud or explosive noises.

(5) The use within the Village of any automobile, truck, motorcycle or other vehicle, so defective or loaded in such manner or with material of such nature as to create loud or unnecessary grating, grinding, rattling or other noises.

(6) The loading or unloading of any vehicle, or the opening or destruction of bales, boxes, crates, containers or the like, without exercising reasonable care to limit such noise and to confine the same.

(7) Any automotive or machinery repair conducted outdoors or any construction related activity other than between the hours of seven o'clock (7:00) A.M. and seven o'clock (7:00) P.M. on weekdays, nine o'clock (9:00) A.M. and five o'clock (5:00) P.M. on Saturdays and twelve o'clock (12:00) noon and five o'clock (5:00) P.M. on Sundays. Sunday hours must be observed on all national holidays. For purposes of this subsection "outdoors" shall mean any space that is not completely enclosed with all doors and windows shut. For purposes of this subsection "construction related activity" shall mean any use of percussion or power tools, excavation, demolition, and the moving of powered construction equipment and the loading or unloading of construction material or equipment. If work outside of these hours is necessary to protect health, safety or property, an owner may apply to the Village for an emergency work permit. Emergency work permits may be issued for the minimum time necessary to complete the emergency work up to a maximum of three (3) days. The permit may be renewed for periods of up to three (3) days while the emergency continues. The person actually committing the violation, the general contractor, the permittee, the property owner and the property occupier, shall be jointly and severally liable for any violations of this subsection.

(8) The creation within the Village of any excessive noise in the vicinity of any school, institution of learning, church, synagogue, court or hospital, while the same is in use, which unreasonably interferes with the workings of such institution, or which disturbs or unduly annoys occupants, provided conspicuous signs are displayed in the vicinity of any such building indicating that the same is a school, hospital, court, church or synagogue.

(9) The following circumstances shall create a presumption of a violation of this Section.

(a) The production or permitting of noise between the hours of seven o'clock p.m. and seven o'clock a.m. in such manner as to be plainly audible at a distance of one hundred (100') feet from the noise source.

(b) The generation of a level of sound as measured at the lot line of the source which is greater than the "A-weighted" sound level set forth in the table below:

District Classification of Receiving Property	Time of Day	Maximum "A-Weighted" Sound Level
Residential	7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.	65 dBA
All other land uses	7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.	70 dBA

The limits set forth in subparagraphs (9) (a) and (b) above shall not apply to the following: noises not under the control of the owner or occupant of the property; noises emanating from temporary construction or repair pursuant to appropriate permits; noise due to an emergency situation on the site; intermittent noise due to normal maintenance activities conducted in conformance with this section and noises from Park District and School District athletic events; other Park District and School District events that do not include sound amplification and private events on Park District property that do not include sound amplification. These limits shall, likewise, not apply to noise from the following events which do include sound amplification:

(i) Park District sponsored special community and civic events during the following hours: Sunday from 12 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Monday – Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Exempt, sound amplified Park District special community and civic events conducted by the Park District shall be limited to 17 per calendar year. The Park District may seek relief from the conditions of this paragraph (b) only from the Village Board.

(ii) Private sound amplified events held on Park District property shall be subject to the following conditions:

(1) the Park District has issued a permit for the event;

(2) the hours set forth in (a) above shall be applicable;

(3) the permittee must acknowledge that the determination of whether noise levels are reasonable shall be within the sole discretion of the Northfield Police Department.

(4) No more than 10 private events with sound amplification may be held within any calendar year.

The permittee may seek relief from the conditions of this paragraph (b) only from the Village Board.

SECTION 5: That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 6: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and upon its passage and approval in the manner provided by law.

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSENT: _____

RECUSE/ABSTAIN: _____

PASSED and APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2019, by the President of the Village of Northfield.

Joan Frazier, Village President

ATTESTED and FILED in the office of the Village Clerk this _____ day of _____, 2019.

Stacy Sigman, Village Clerk

NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES - NOISE REGULATION

COMMUNITY	SUMMARY OF REGULATIONS	STAFF COMMENTS															
Winnetka	Use "Reasonable Person" standard	Haven't had noise complaints about park district or school district special events.															
Glencoe	<p>If noise is audible at 1,000' from property line.</p> <p>If noise is audible at 150' from property line between 11 p.m.-8 a.m.</p> <p>Charity/Community Service Organizations can hold civic event until Midnight – if approved by Village Board</p>	<p>Haven't had noise complaints about park district or school district special events.</p> <p>Are not allowing events past 11 p.m. but Park and School District events usually end fairly early in the evening and have been quiet enough that they haven't received many complaints.</p>															
Wilmette	<table border="1" data-bbox="289 575 813 808"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3" data-bbox="289 575 813 625">VILLAGE OF WILMETTE, ILLINOIS TABLE 13-3: A-WEIGHTED SOUND LIMITS</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="289 625 508 695">DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION OF RECEIVING PROPERTY</th> <th data-bbox="508 625 672 695">TIME OF DAY</th> <th data-bbox="672 625 813 695">MAXIMUM A-WEIGHTED SOUND LEVEL</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="289 695 508 751">RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS</td> <td data-bbox="508 695 672 751">7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.</td> <td data-bbox="672 695 813 751">50 dB(A) 45 dB(A)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="289 751 508 808">NON-RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS</td> <td data-bbox="508 751 672 808">7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.</td> <td data-bbox="672 751 813 808">60 dB(A) 55 dB(A)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	VILLAGE OF WILMETTE, ILLINOIS TABLE 13-3: A-WEIGHTED SOUND LIMITS			DISTRICT CLASSIFICATION OF RECEIVING PROPERTY	TIME OF DAY	MAXIMUM A-WEIGHTED SOUND LEVEL	RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS	7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.	50 dB(A) 45 dB(A)	NON-RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS	7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.	60 dB(A) 55 dB(A)	<p>Haven't had noise complaints about park district or school district special events.</p> <p>If they did get complaint they would refer to park or school district.</p>			
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Northbrook	<table border="1" data-bbox="289 842 813 1121"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3" data-bbox="289 842 813 892">VILLAGE OF NORTHBROOK A-WEIGHTED SOUND LIMITS</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="289 892 508 947">LOCATION OF SOURCE OF SOUND</th> <th data-bbox="508 892 672 947">TIME OF DAY</th> <th data-bbox="672 892 813 947">MEASUREMENT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="289 947 508 1003">SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL</td> <td data-bbox="508 947 672 1003">7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.</td> <td data-bbox="672 947 813 1003">65 dB(A) Audible</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="289 1003 508 1060">MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL</td> <td data-bbox="508 1003 672 1060">7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.</td> <td data-bbox="672 1003 813 1060">65 dB(A) Audible</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="289 1060 508 1121">OTHER TYPES OF PROPERTIES</td> <td data-bbox="508 1060 672 1121">7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.</td> <td data-bbox="672 1060 813 1121">65 dB(A) Audible</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	VILLAGE OF NORTHBROOK A-WEIGHTED SOUND LIMITS			LOCATION OF SOURCE OF SOUND	TIME OF DAY	MEASUREMENT	SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL	7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.	65 dB(A) Audible	MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL	7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.	65 dB(A) Audible	OTHER TYPES OF PROPERTIES	7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.	65 dB(A) Audible	<p>Haven't had noise complaints about park district or school district special events.</p> <p>Exempt special events organized/sponsored by Village or Park District and School District athletic events. "This has been in place as long as I have worked for the Village (28 years), but I can only presume that there is a history of the Park District having live music events and baseball games in our Village Green Park and this simply recognizes that. This approach allows us to refer complaints directly to the Park District."</p>
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Kenilworth	Use "Reasonable Person" standard between 6 pm-7am (M-F); 5 pm - 9am (Sat); any time of day (Sun, Holidays).	Haven't had noise complaints about park district or school district special events.															
Highland Park	<p>Use "Reasonable Person" standard in residential districts.</p> <p>Ravinia – Their PUD has an 11:00 p.m. hour restriction for their performances.</p>	<p>Haven't had noise complaints about park district or school district special events.</p> <p>Park District is very good at policing themselves on events and usually don't go past 10 p.m.</p>															

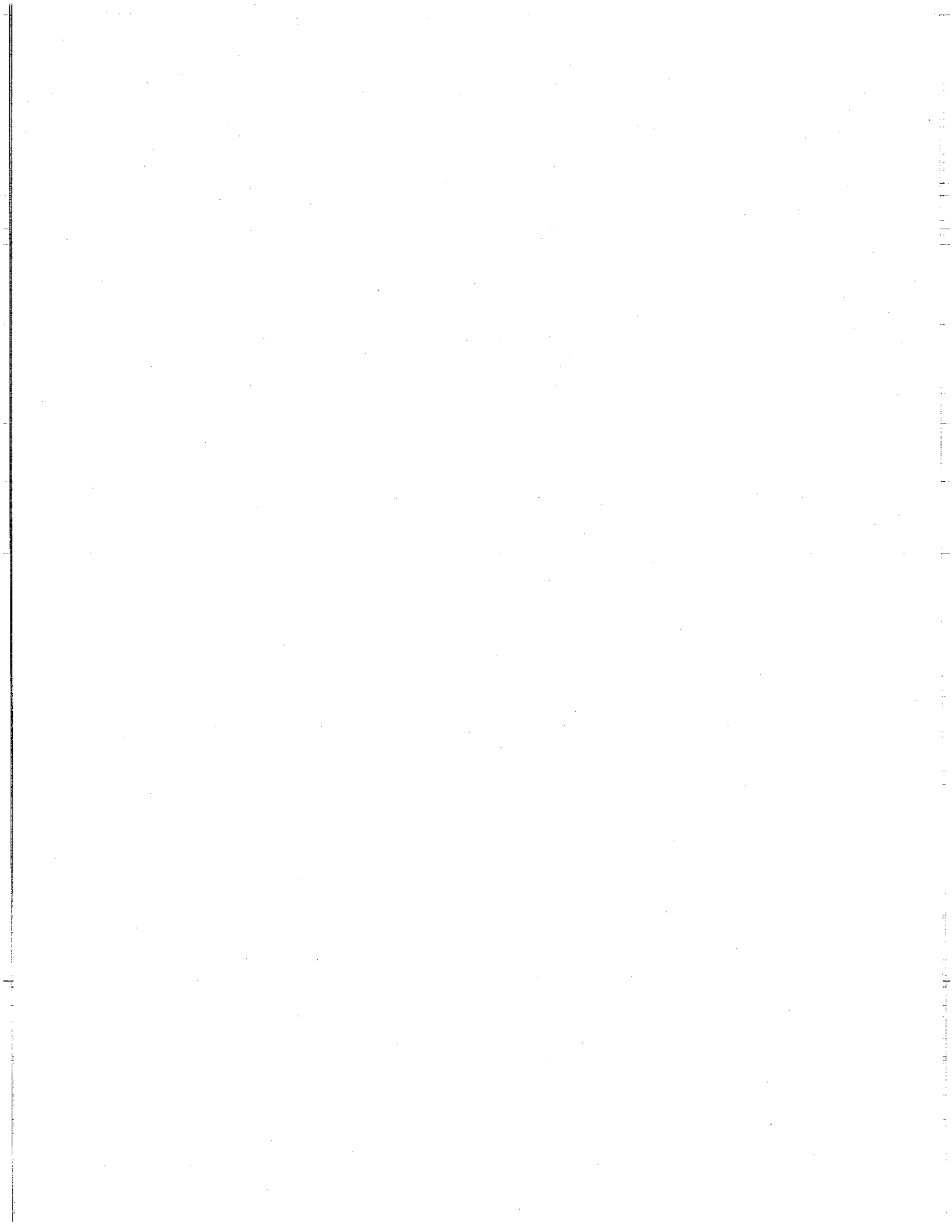
Glenview

TABLE I (Instruments Calibrated In Octave Bands Shown In First Column)	
Octave Band Frequencies (Cycles Per Second)	Maximum Permitted Sound Pressure Level (In Decibels)
20— 75	70
75— 150	65
150— 300	58
300— 600	51
600—1,200	45
1,200—2,400	39
2,400—4,800	34
4,800 and over	32

TABLE II (Instruments Calibrated In Preferred Center Frequencies Shown In First Column)	
Octave Band Center Per Frequency (Cycles Per Second)	Maximum Permitted Sound Pressure Level (In Decibels)
31.5	74
63	69
125	63
250	56
500	49
1,000	44
2,000	38
4,000	33
8,000 and over	32

Haven't had noise complaints about park district or school district special events.

Village Manager's office issues Special Event Permits to park and schools. Police Officers would use "reasonable person" standard in the field if they did get complaints about park/school event, as opposed to a sound meter.



Gutierrez, Steve

From: john norbot <johnnorbot@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2019 7:52 PM
To: Gutierrez, Steve
Subject: Village Noise Ordinance

Steve, we back the proposed reasonable modification, thanks John

To Whom It May Concern,

We support the Park District seeking modification to the Village Noise Ordinance so that the Park District can continue to offer the types of activities our residents have come to enjoy.

Signed,
John & Sandy Norbot
300 Sterling Ln
Northfield, IL
Address

Gutierrez, Steve

From: Barnaby Dinges <barnabydinges@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 31, 2019 12:23 PM
To: Gutierrez, Steve
Subject: Wednesday in the Park

This is a great family-friendly event that reflects well on our village and attracts visitors to our parks and downtown district. A basic social cost-benefit analysis will show this is worth continuing and growing. How will we progress as a community if we don't support new initiatives to bring us together?

Barnaby Dinges
421 Chapel Hill Lane, Northfield
847-386-6953

Gutierrez, Steve

From: Lindsay Hernandez <lindsaybartel@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2019 11:04 AM
To: Gutierrez, Steve
Subject: Park District Noise Ordinance Review

To Whom It May Concern,

We support the Park District seeking modification to the Village Noise Ordinance so that the Park District can continue to offer the types of activities our residents have come to enjoy.

V/R,
Lindsay Hernandez
2031 Old Willow Rd, Northfield, IL 60093

Gutierrez, Steve

From: Seong McGarry <seong.mcgarry@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2019 7:25 AM
To: Gutierrez, Steve
Subject: Park District Noise Ordinance

To Whom It May Concern,

We support the Park District seeking modification to the Village Noise Ordinance so that the Park District can continue to offer the types of activities our residents have come to enjoy.

Sincerely,
Seong & Jim McGarry
898 Bridlegate Ln., Northfield

Gutierrez, Steve

From: Kerri <kerrimelzl@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, January 27, 2019 9:54 PM
To: Gutierrez, Steve
Subject: Noise

To Whom It May Concern,

We support the Park District seeking modification to the Village Noise Ordinance so that the Park District can continue to offer the types of activities our residents have come to enjoy. We like noise!

Signed
Kerri and Tom Melzl
585 Laurie lane

Kerri Melzl
773-842-9819

Gutierrez, Steve

From: andrea macina <aamacina@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 27, 2019 3:19 PM
To: Gutierrez, Steve
Subject: Modify Village Noise Ordinance

To Whom It May Concern,

I support the Park District seeking modification to the Village Noise Ordinance so that the Park District can continue to offer the types of activities our residents have come to enjoy. Activities that they offer continue to create such a wonderful bond amongst the community, let it continue.

Thank you,
Andrea Macina
305 Shadowood Lane
Northfield, IL 60093

Gutierrez, Steve

From: John Nick Gaetano <jngaetano@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 27, 2019 1:35 PM
To: Gutierrez, Steve
Subject: Noise ordinance

To Whom It May Concern,

We support the Park District seeking modification to the Village Noise Ordinance so that the Park District can continue to offer the types of activities our residents have come to enjoy.

Signed,
John Gaetano
585 Happ Rd, Northfield

Gutierrez, Steve

From: Kennedy, Michael <michael.kennedy@here.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 27, 2019 1:13 PM
To: Gutierrez, Steve
Subject: Northfield noise ordinance

Hello Steve,

I wanted to write in support of amending the current Northfield park ordinances to allow for events such as Ribfest and 4th of July celebrations to continue. Events like these are what set Northfield apart from other communities and represent some of the most envied aspects of living in our village.

I will not be able to attend the village council meeting on the 4th but would appreciate you including my support as a part of the discussion.

Thanks you,
Mike Kennedy
1985 Valley View Rd, Northfield

Gutierrez, Steve

From: Allison Gaetano <amgaetano@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 27, 2019 12:35 PM
To: Gutierrez, Steve
Subject: Noise Ordinance

To Whom It May Concern,

We support the Park District seeking modification to the Village Noise Ordinance so that the Park District can continue to offer the types of activities our residents have come to enjoy.

Signed,
Allison Gaetano
585 Happ Rd, Northfield

Gutierrez, Steve

From: PM Gallagher (President, Midwest) <PM_Gallagher@ajg.com>
Sent: Monday, January 21, 2019 9:35 PM
To: Gutierrez, Steve
Cc: PM Gallagher (President, Midwest); Jen Gallagher; garrick.w.beil@gmail.com
Subject: Fwd: Northfield Park District Needs Your Help

Steve,

I could not be more supportive of Garrick. He and I are aligned in thinking there are times for quiet and times to celebrate. Northfield is a place to be proud and to celebrate!! On the rare occasion that someone in Northfield wants to celebrate there should be an allowance for noise. Thanks

2111 Old Willow Rd!

Patrick M Gallagher
President - Midwest Region
pm_gallagher@ajg.com
312.803.6316
847.682.5657

Begin forwarded message:

From: Garrick Beil <garrick.w.beil@gmail.com>
Date: January 21, 2019 at 11:00:28 AM CST
To: Andrea Macina <aamacina@yahoo.com>, Bianca Rose <breby00@yahoo.com>, David Aul <david@davidaul.com>, Evelyn Schwall <meschwall@me.com>, Jennifer Andrew <Breez42@sbcglobal.net>, Jennifer Gustafson <gustafson_jenn@hotmail.com>, Jessica Tomlinson <jesslbrady@hotmail.com>, John Norbot <chetlemon44@hotmail.com>, Laura Felicione <llechowicz@aol.com>, "Macina, Thomas" <tmacina@mesirowfinancial.com>, Michael Gallagher <mbgallagher68@gmail.com>, Nancy Prosko <nancyprosko@yahoo.com>, Patricia Andrew <Tandrew45@sbcglobal.net>, Patrick Gallagher <pmgallag18@yahoo.com>, Patrick Spencer <spencer1868@aol.com>, "Prosko, Dwayne (US - Chicago)" <dprosko@deloitte.com>, Sandy Norbot <sandynorbot@yahoo.com>, Steven Tomlinson <tomlinsonsteve@hotmail.com>, Chris <pitcommittee@yahoo.com>, Dwayne Prosko <dprosko@yahoo.com>, Jennifer Damon <jennydamon@yahoo.com>, Laura Phillips <toddandlaura@sbcglobal.net>, leslie george <georges255@comcast.net>, Sydney Clark <sclark4994@yahoo.com>, Todd Fowler <wrf115@gmail.com>, Tom Whittaker <firersq24@comcast.net>, NJD <ndetlefsen@gmail.com>
Subject: Northfield Park District Needs Your Help

Friends-

As some of you know, I am a Park District Trustee in Northfield. When I joined the Board of Trustees, my #1 goal was to help increase participation and engagement of

the community through events that would bring the community together in our parks. As a board and park district administration, I think we have been successful at that!

However, it turns out that there is an antiquated noise ordinance in Northfield that could be applied to pretty much any event we host- sporting events, 4th of July, RibFest, Market & Music, all AYSO, Trevian, FC United, KWBA games, etc. We learned that even the sound of children playing on the Clarkson Park playground exceeds the allowed decibel level in the noise ordinance. The school district is also impacted by this ordinance for any event held in the parks or on their playgrounds.

What's at stake?

If the ordinance isn't updated in a sensible way, a single complaint (which has been received by the Village-- yes, 1 single complaint) could essentially curtail use of the parks in our community for events that we all enjoy and that bring our community together.

What can you do?

We need members of the Northfield community to communicate their support of a sensible revision of the village zoning noise ordinance to either:

A) Exempt the Northfield Park District from the local noise ordinance, allowing the elected Park District Board of Trustees to make sensible decisions on event types and start/end times that make sense for our community.

OR

B) Exempt the Northfield Park District from the local noise ordinance during specific days and times to coincide with event programming and typical usage of the park facilities.

How do you communicate your input to the Village of Northfield?

Email by January 28, 2019 to:

Steve Gutierrez, Communications Director - Village of Northfield

sgutierrez@northfieldil.org

Speak In Person:

February 4, 2019 at 7:00 PM at Northfield Village Hall

Ideally, we would have a handful of speakers, in addition to the emailed correspondence.

Thank you for supporting your parks! More information is below for those who wish to read further.

Cheers,

Garrick

Friends and neighbors,

The Northfield Park district seeks to offer the community a wide range of programs and activities at our park properties and facilities.

We work closely with the Village and School District. These three bodies of local government maintain excellent relationships with each other, especially since we all serve largely the same people.

Sometimes issues come up that weren't necessarily predicted when the different bodies created their rules and codes. Currently, there is a question regarding the Village's noise ordinance, and how it pertains to the School District(s) and the Park District.

It came to our attention recently that many (if not most) activities at park facilities and outdoor school events technically are in violation of the village noise ordinance. For example, decibel readings show that even the sound of children playing at Clarkson Park exceeded the limits. Looking at the various sporting events, 4th of July, Ribfest, etcetera that are held in locations across the Village, they are all technically potential violations.

We are seeking a modification to the Village Noise Ordinance so that we can continue to offer the types of activities our residence have come to enjoy. Depending upon the outcome, our ability to offer programming and events in the future may be seriously affected.

A meeting of the Village Planning and Zoning Board will be held February 4th at 7PM at the Village Hall. They will seek input and ultimately make a recommendation to the Village board for consideration.

We are asking for your help. While we'll be there to represent our residents, the individual voices of members of our community carry tremendous weight. Please come and show you support for sensible changes to allow us to continue providing the services you've come to know and expect.

-- Northfield Park District Board of Trustees

Gutierrez, Steve

From: chris clark <pitcommittee@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 21, 2019 11:15 AM
To: Gutierrez, Steve
Subject: Noise ordinance

I support the updating of the noise ordinance. There is no way we should be curtailing any of the current programs we enjoy due to an antiquated law.

Thanks ,
Chris clark
2371 Dorina.

Sent from my iPhone