

CITY OF COUNTRYSIDE

*803 Joliet Road
Countryside, IL 60525
www.countryside-il.org*



Meeting Minutes

Special Events Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 10, 2026

6:45 PM

Council Chambers

Committee Members

Chairman – Alderman Scott Musillami

Member – Alderman Mark Benson

Member – Alderman John Von Drasek

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Musillami called the meeting to order at 6:45 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Chairman Musillami
Alderman Benson
Alderman Von Drasek

Also Present: Mayor McDermott
City Clerk Kmet
Treasurer Bolt
Alderman Frohlich
Alderman Mikolyzk
Alderman Finn
City Administrator Paul
Finance Director Schutter
Chief Klimek
Deputy Clerk Cordova
City Attorney Peck

3. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 14, 2026.

4.a. The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 14, 2026 were previously distributed to the members of the Special Events Committee.

A motion was made by Alderman Benson to APPROVE the minutes from the January 14, 2026 meeting, seconded by Chairman Von Drasek and carried unanimously.

5. BUSINESS FROM THE COMMITTEE FOR DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND IF SO DETERMINED, ACTION UPON:

5.a. Consideration of a partnership with Helping Hand to establish a sensory-friendly “Quiet Zone” at some of the summer concerts.

Deputy Clerk Cordova said that Helping Hand reached out to her about a week and a half ago. They had this quiet zone at the pet parade. That was the first time they had put it together and used it. The quiet zone is a sensory friendly area. It’s a welcoming environment where families and individuals can fully enjoy an event in a space that feels calm and comfortable.

They would like to come out to the concerts and pick a part of the park so they can set this up. They would come out with tents, tables, chairs, sensory friendly activities led by their clinic team. They would bring outdoor games and headphones to reduce the sound stimulation.

Helping Hand said if the Committee approved this quiet zone they would set them up for all of the concerts. Alderman Musillami asked if Helping Hand said how many people participated at the pet parade. Deputy Clerk Cordova said she didn't think that they gave her an actual number. They did say that the response from the family and the community was incredibly positive with strong interest and engagement from that day on. The families are looking for it to be at other community events.

Alderman Benson asked where in the park do you think they would like to set this up. Deputy Clerk Cordova said they would not set it up by the general area. I'm thinking either by the baseball fields or the gazebo on the other side of the park.

Alderman Von Drasek asked if we knew how big of an area they would occupy. Deputy Clerk Cordova said it would be based on how many people are going to want to use the service. We do not know how many people are interested because we have not advertised it yet. We will advertise going forward that this program is available before the concerts. Helping Hand said they would also be advertising the program.

Chairman Musillami said he thinks the only night they will have a problem with this is the fireworks night. Deputy Clerk Cordova if we do approve this program Helping Hand will have to put together a plan. I can come back to the committee and let you know.

City Administrator Paul said even with the fireworks night it might be possible to put them on the other side of the bathrooms and garage. Chairman Musillami said that could be a possibility.

Chairman Musillami asked for a motion.

A motion was made by Alderman Von Drasek to approve the partnership with Helping Hand to establish a sensory-friendly "Quiet Zone" at some of the summer concerts, seconded by Alderman Benson and carried unanimously.

5.b. Consideration of a 250th American Birthday celebration at Flagg Creek Golf Course on July 3rd.

Deputy Clerk Cordova said this is a new event and depending on how well it goes, we can plan it again for next year. Golf Course Manager Jeter, Assistant Manager Sullivan, City Administrator Paul and I sat down and brainstormed ideas for the 250th year of America. We wanted to do something fun for the family at the golf course. We have planned many activities for the kids. We are printing tickets to get into the parking lot at the golf course.

Mayor McDermott asked if we were limiting the tickets to just Countryside residents. Deputy Clerk Cordova said no just limiting the amount of people parking in the parking lot. Mayor McDermott asked if anyone can get a ticket, not just Countryside residents. Deputy Clerk Cordova said yes anyone can come and we have tickets at City Hall and Flagg Creek.

Chairman Musillami asked for a motion on this item.

Alderman Benson made a motion to have a 250th American Birthday celebration at Flagg Creek Golf Course on July 3rd, seconded by Alderman Von Drasek and carried unanimously.

6. OTHER COMMITTEE BUSINESS.

None.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Musillami asked for a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Alderman Benson to adjourn the meeting it was seconded by Alderman Von Drasek and carried unanimously.

There being no further Special Event business, Chairman Musillami adjourned the meeting at 7:09 pm.

APPROVED:

Respectfully Submitted,

Chairman Musillami

/km