



AGENDA ITEM #: 21-36  
COUNCIL MTG OF: Tuesday, March 30, 2021  
FROM: David Caron, Town Administrator  
OFFERED BY: Beverly Donovan, Economic Development Director  
PREPARED BY: Beverly Donovan  
SUBJECT: Chapter 104 – Public Gatherings Ordinance

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STAFF REPORT  
*Public Hearing 4-20-21*

**PURPOSE:** To update Chapter 104 – Public Gatherings Ordinance to include language relative to Special Events.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS:** Staff continues to present proposals to the Council which would authorize mechanisms to assist the business community. After the April 20 public hearing, the Council is encouraged to support the amendments to Chapter 104.

**BACKGROUND:** The evolving business landscape, as well as the changes necessitated by the COVID-19 Pandemic, has highlighted the need to provide a mechanism by which Special Events may be hosted on either public or private property when otherwise not permissible.

**DISCUSSION:** The proposed new language under Chapter 104-1.1 -*A Special Event is an event whether indoors or outdoors, and not otherwise exempt, held on public property or streets, non-profit organization property, or non-residential private property that can reasonably be expected to cause a public gathering that is not part of the normal course of business at the location and may require public services. To qualify as a Special Event, the event must not be permissible or permittable by any other committee, board or officer of the Town of Derry under Town ordinances, policies, or by-laws.*

This new language will streamline the process of permitting meet temporary needs of businesses and residents for events that fall outside the guidelines of the original language of the ordinance. Examples include: Pandemic-related Drive-In Concert Series at Tupelo Music Hall; one-day rental of commercial property for unrelated private events; blanket permit for seasonal use on public property.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** There is no fiscal impact currently.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION BY COUNCIL:** See Ordinance #2021-005

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