

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-357

First Reading Passage Requested

N. Kostandaras

SPONSOR Mr. Pry, Mr. Kostandaras and Mr. Comunale

DATE October 5, 2009
Special Meeting

COMMITTEE Finance

An amended Resolution expressing support for the Governor's proposal to allow video lottery terminals at Northfield Park, and opposing the other current proposals that would place casinos in other areas of the State, which would compete against and be detrimental to Northfield Park, the Village of Northfield and northern Summit County, and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, Northfield Park, located in the Village of Northfield, in northern Summit County, opened in 1957 and is the only remaining harness racing track in Northeast Ohio; and

WHEREAS, for decades, Northfield Park has been a major employer in the Village of Northfield and has been a key part of the economic landscape of northern Summit County; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Ohio has recently proposed certain measures that would allow horse-racing tracks within the State to apply for and obtain licenses to operate video lottery terminals at their tracks; and

WHEREAS, the measures proposed by the Governor are aimed at generating revenue for the State of Ohio, promoting financial stability for the horse-racing tracks within the State, and promoting economic development and job growth for those areas within the State that are home to a horse-racing track; and

WHEREAS, the measures proposed by the Governor would bring economic development, job growth and incoming revenue into the Village of Northfield and northern Summit County, and will not only benefit Northfield Park, but will also benefit other trades and nearby services industries; and The Governor has indicated he may change his Proposal; irrespective of any change, Council expresses its support to allow video lottery terminals at Northfield Park.

WHEREAS, at the same time, measures are currently being advanced by other groups that would place casinos in areas of the State outside of Summit County that would substantially hinder the potential economic benefits and success of Northfield Park, the Village of Northfield and northern Summit County under the Governor's proposals; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the potential economic impacts discussed above, this Council finds and determines that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County of Summit to express its support for the Governor's proposal to allow video lottery terminals at Northfield Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the County of Summit, State of Ohio, that:

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SECTION 1

This Council hereby expresses its support for the Governor's proposal to allow video lottery terminals at Northfield Park, on the basis that it will provide economic development, job growth and incoming revenue into the Village of Northfield and northern Summit County.

SECTION 2

This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the County of Summit and for the further purpose to immediately express its positions on the aforementioned issues.

SECTION 3

Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight members of this Council, it shall effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the County Executive; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.

SECTION 4

It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

8-2-1
PC JP
GR

INTRODUCED September 28, 2009

ADOPTED October 5, 2009

Shirley F. Green
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Nick Kostandaras
PRESIDENT

APPROVED October 6, 2009

EXECUTIVE Russell W. ...

October 6, 2009
ENACTED EFFECTIVE

Voice Vote: 8-2-1 YES: Komunale, Crawford, Feeman, Kostandaras, Prentice, Schmidt, Shapiro, Smith NO: Crossland, Rodgers ABSTAIN: Poda