Mark Onstott Public Comment

My name is Mark Onstott, and I am the Owner of Tavern on Main. I have operated bars and restaurants in the City of Belleville since the 1980s. I opened Taven on Main at 301 East Main Street in 2017. Tavern on Main is located on the street corner, so there is nothing to the West and immediately to the East is Eye on Design. I am writing as a local business owner in support of addressing the ongoing noise issues caused by Copper Fire. Tavern on Main is one block East of Copper Fire. My restaurant regularly receives guests that have left Copper Fire that make comments about leaving there due to the excessive noise inside the restaurant and have experienced firsthand the excessive volume of their live music, which not only disrupts the peace but also goes beyond what is reasonable or neighborly.

Our community has long strived to maintain a balance between fostering a vibrant business environment and respecting the rights of our residents and fellow business owners. For context, my restaurant occasionally hosts a single musician on our patio during the summer months. We ensure that performances are at a reasonable volume and respectful of our neighbors. Most other bars and restaurants in our district have either ceased live music events or made significant efforts to comply with noise ordinances after previous noise complaints.

Allowing this level of noise pollution to persist sets a poor precedent and undermines the cooperative spirit of our business district. As someone who values the well-being of our community, I urge the Board to take appropriate measures to ensure compliance with noise regulations and address this disturbance.

Mark Onstott Tavern on Main