

VILLAGE OF OTISVILLE
REGULATING DANCE HALLS
Ordinance No. 33

An Ordinance to license and regulate public dance halls and public dances.

The Village of Otisville Ordains:

SECTION 1:

It shall be unlawful for any person, co-partnership or corporation organized for a profit owning or controlling any room, hall or premises in the Village of Otisville to use or permit such room, hall or premises to be used or occupied as a place for conducting or holding a public dance, unless such room, hall or premises shall be provided and supplied with inside chemical toilets in two separate compartments, one for the use of females and one for the use of males, completely separated from each other, or outside toilets which shall be well illuminated including the areaways to and from such toilets. In either case, the toilets shall comprise of two separate structures a reasonable distance apart, one for the use of females and one for the use of males, and each of such compartments shall be thoroughly ventilated and shall at all times be kept in a clean and sanitary condition.

SECTION 2:

No person, co-partnership or corporation organized for a profit shall hereafter carry on the business of conducting a public dance hall in the Village of Otisville without having first obtained a license subject to the provisions of this Ordinance, authorizing such person, co-partnership or corporation organized for a profit to carry on such business.

SECTION 3:

The Clerk of the Village of Otisville may grant, upon recommendation of the Village Council under their hand and the official seal of the Village a license to any suitable person, co-partnership or corporation organized for a profit to operate a public dance hall subject to the provision of this ordinance for a period of one year or less, but in no event shall such license extend beyond the 1st day of May first succeeding the issuance thereof. Such license shall designate the particular place in said Village where such dance hall may be operated and no person, co-partnership or corporation organized for a profit receiving such license shall operate a public dance hall in any place other than as designated in such license. Any person, co-partnership or corporation organized for a profit making application to the Village Clerk for any such license shall state under oath the particular place such public dance hall is to be conducted and that the building in which said dance hall is located has toilet equipment as specified in this Ordinance, and shall pay to said Clerk a license fee of seventy five dollars (\$75.00), provided such business is proposed to be carried on for one year, and where the time for which such business is proposed to be carried on is less than on year, then the license fee to be paid shall be ten dollars (\$10.00) per month or fraction thereof.

SECTION 4:

Any person, co-partnership or corporation organized for a profit applying for a license to carry on the business of conducting a public dance hall shall accept such license upon the express condition that it may be revoked at the will of the Village Council, after reasonable notice and an opportunity for the holder of such license to be heard, whenever it shall be determined by a majority vote of the Village Council members elect that such public dance hall has been or is being conducted by such person, co-partnership or corporation organized for a profit in a manner detrimental to the public welfare, and any person, co-partnership or corporation holding a license so revoked by the Village Council shall not again be licensed to carry on such business without the consent of the Village Council first obtained.

SECTION 5:

A public dance hall within the intent and meaning of this ordinance is hereby defined as a place where persons are permitted to congregate for the purpose of participating in dancing, if desired, to whom separate and special invitations are not issued.

SECTION 6:

Any person violating the provisions of this Ordinance shall upon conviction thereof before any court of competent jurisdiction, be punished by a fine of not exceeding one hundred dollars (\$100.00) and costs of prosecution, or by imprisonment in the common jail of Genesee County for a period not exceeding ninety (90) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court trying the offender.

SECTION 7:

Whenever any public dance is being conducted in any dance hall in the Village of Otisville, the entire dance hall and all adjoining rooms opening into said hall, must be adequately lighted at all times.

SECTION 8:

It shall be unlawful for any proprietor, lessee, operator or manager of any dance hall or academy or any other place of public assemblage or any other person, firm or corporation for gain or profit, to permit marathon and/or endurance dancing, running, walking or any other endurance contests in any public dance hall or academy or any other place of public assemblage in the Village of Otisville.

SECTION 9:

Whenever any public dance shall be held in the Village of Otisville, all suggestive, immoral or obscene forms of dances are forbidden.

SECTION 10:

This Ordinance shall take effect on the 30th day of April 1946.