

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT STAFF REPORT

Case Number: A.N. 24-25

Application Type: Liquor, Beer, and Wine Consumption on Premises – Existing Location, New Ownership

Business Name: Modjeska

Hearing Date: May 14, 2024

Prepared By: Brian Kepner, Deputy Director, Planning & Licensing Divisions, Planning & Development Department

Applicant: Spencer Sasko

Property Owner: Zua Modjeska, LLC

Address of Property: 813 Broad Street

Tax Parcel #: 037-3-114-00-0

Commission Districts: District 1, Super District 9

ANALYSIS:

Location Restrictions:

- **Zoning:** General Business, B-2
- **Distance Requirements:** The proposed location for retail package Beer & Wine meets the minimum distance to churches, schools, libraries, and public recreational areas.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- **Reputation, Character** – The applicant's reputation, character, trade and business associations or past business ventures, mental and physical capacity to conduct business.
- **Previous Violations of Liquor Laws** – If the applicant is a previous holder of a license to sell alcoholic liquors, whether they have violated any laws, regulations, or ordinances relating to such business.
- **Manner of Conducting Prior Liquor Business** – If the applicant is a previous holder of a license to sell alcoholic liquors, the manner with which they conducted the business thereunder especially as to the necessity for unusual police observation and inspection to prevent the violation of any law, regulation, or ordinance relating to such business.
- **Location** - The location for which the license is sought, as to traffic congestion, general character of neighborhood, and the effect such an establishment would have on the adjacent surrounding property values.
- **Number of Licenses in a Trading Area** – The number of licenses already granted for a similar business in the trading area of place for which the license is sought.

- **Dancing** – If dancing is to be permitted upon the premise for which the license is sought and the applicant has previously permitted dancing upon the premises controlled or supervised by them, the manner with which they controlled or supervised such dancing to prevent any violation of any law, regulation, or ordinance.
- **Previous Revocation of License** – If the applicant is a person whose license issued under the police powers of any governing authority has been previously suspended, or revoked, or who has previously had an alcoholic beverages license suspended or revoked.
- **Payment of Taxes** - If the applicant and business are not delinquent in the payment of any local taxes.
- **Congregation of Minors** – Any circumstances which may cause minors to congregate in the vicinity of the proposed location, even if the location meets the distance requirements under Section 6-2-64(b) herein.
- **Prior Incidents** - Evidence that a substantial number of incidents requiring police intervention have occurred within a square city block of the proposed location during the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the date of application.
- **Previous Denial or Revocation** – The denial of an application or revocation of a license, occurring within the preceding twelve (12) months, which was based on the qualifications of the proposed location.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The applicant will pay a fee of \$4,365.00

RECOMMENDATION:

Planning and Development Department recommends approval of the application subject to additional information not contradicting the applicant's statements.

Sheriff's Office recommends approval of the application subject to additional information not contradicting the applicant's statements.

NOTE: The staff report includes information available approximately two (2) weeks prior to the Public Services Committee meeting. It represents an evaluation of the facts presented by the applicant; research done by staff, and consideration of the relevant factors in the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance and the Alcohol Ordinance of Augusta, Georgia. New facts may emerge, and staff reserves the right to make an oral recommendation at the hearing based on all information available at that time.