



**CITY OF BELLE ISLE, FLORIDA  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**

**Meeting Date:** July 21, 2020

**To:** Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

**From:** B. Francis, City Manager

**Subject:** Public Hearing - Lake Life Paddle

**Background:** The City issued an occupational license to Lake Life Paddle. Recently the City received complaints from several neighbors that Lake Life Paddle Regal Boats is causing problems for the neighbors that use the Willoughby Canal. The City contacted the owner of the company about the problems and informed the owner that since the City received complaints, the City will hold a public hearing on the disposition of the occupational license.

The crux of the matter is that residents along the canal do not want the business to launch paddleboards from the owner's residence which is on the canal. They believe that it is detrimental to the property owners along the canal. There have been reports of damage to boats and docks from inexperienced paddlers and privacy issues. Those who have a concern stated that if paddlers are launched from a public park that they are fine with the business keeping its license. Warren park cannot be used as a launch because the City put a condition in the County's permit that prohibits a commercial business from operating at Warren Park.

The City Manager tried to work with the owner and offered City public parks to launch. The owner has not accepted the City's offer. Since this situation has not been resolved and the complaints are not resolved, the City had no choice but to hold a public hearing so the Council can determine the disposition of the occupational permit under Section 28-99 of the BIMC which states: **The city council shall have the right and authority to revoke , after legal notice and public hearing, any occupational license granted under this article whenever it is shown that the business is being conducted in such a manner as to be detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare or to the customers and patrons of the licensee.**

**Staff Recommendation:** To revoke the Occupational License immediately until such time that the owner finds a public launch site. Further the City staff recommends the Council direct the City staff to review the home occupational language in Section 50-103 of the BIMC and recommend changes to the code.

**Suggested Motion:** I move that we immediately revoke the Occupational License of Lake Life Paddle until such time that the owner finds a public launch site.

**Alternatives:** Do not revoke the permit and allow Lake Life Paddle to continue operating as they do now.

**Fiscal Impact:** N/A

**Attachments:** Public Testimony submitted to the City.