

**ROCHELLE CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM MEMO
REGULAR MEETING**

SUBJECT: Ordinance Extending the Moratorium Limiting the Number of Class B Liquor Licenses and Issuance of any new Class B Liquor Licenses

Staff Contact: RoseMary Huéramo, City Clerk

Summary: The ordinance limiting the number of Class B liquor licenses and placing a moratorium on the issuance of new licenses was approved in January 2022 to address concerns over the rapid increase of video gaming machines in the City limits. This ordinance, initially set to expire on May 1, 2023, sought to control the expansion of gaming establishments tied to Class B licenses. Considering ongoing efforts to regulate and limit the number of gaming machines within the city limits, staff is recommending a two-year extension of the moratorium, with a revised expiration date of May 1, 2027. This extension will allow the City to maintain effective oversight of video gaming and continue its commitment to community well-being.

The moratorium will not impact current Class B liquor license holders, who will remain exempt from the restriction. However, should a Class B license be revoked, relinquished, or otherwise vacated, the total number of active Class B licenses within the City will remain capped at ten (10). This ensures that the growth of gaming-related establishments is effectively managed while allowing flexibility if licenses become available. It is important to note that this ordinance specifically pertains to Class B liquor licenses and does not impose any restrictions on the issuance or regulation of other types of liquor licenses, such as those for restaurants, hotels, or other venues. This approach ensures the City can continue to regulate video gaming while supporting the broader goals of balanced economic development.

Funding Sources:

Source:	Budgeted Amount:	Proposed Expenditure:
N/A		

Strategic Plan Goal Application: Small Business Development & Retention

Recommendation: Approval for the moratorium extension to control the expansion of gaming machines and maintain the current number of Class B liquor licenses.