

CITY OF SHEBOYGAN

LICENSING, HEARINGS, AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Alderperson Zach Rust, Vice Chair Alderperson Robert La Fave, Alderperson Joseph Heidemann, Alderperson Daniel Peterson

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED: Alderperson Grazia Perrella

STAFF/OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Ryan Sorenson, Police Chief Christopher Domagalski, Assistant Fire Chief Michael Lubbert, City Clerk Meredith DeBruin, Assistant City Attorney Audrey Kratz, Licensing Clerk Darcie Beernink, Paralegal Kathy Hoffman, Scott Mealiff (WSCS)

OTHERS PRESENT: Bailey Kupfer, Dave Engeldinger, Gerardo Reynoso, Gerald Feger, James Owen, Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Waraich, Ge Xiong, Ricardo Montes, Luke Pfeifer

OPENING OF MEETING

1. Call to Order

Chair Alderperson Zach Rust called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM.

2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

4. Introduction of Committee members, staff and guests

MINUTES

5. Approval of Minutes

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 25, 2024.

Motion made by Vice Chair La Fave, seconded by Alderperson Peterson.

Voting Yea: Chair Rust, Vice Chair La Fave, Alderperson Heidemann, Alderperson Peterson.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

6. Res. No. 88-24-25 (10-7-24) A Resolution authorizing application for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Fiscal Year 2024 Local Solicitation and entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with Sheboygan County.

Chief Domagalski spoke regarding this annual grant which requires a Memorandum of Understanding.

MOTION TO RECOMMEND THE COMMON COUNCIL ADOPT RES. NO. 88-24-25.

Motion made by Vice Chair La Fave, seconded by Alderperson Peterson.

Voting Yea: Chair Rust, Vice Chair La Fave, Alderperson Heidemann, Alderperson Peterson.

7. Res. No. 92-24-25 (10-7-24) A Resolution authorizing the Purchasing Agent to issue a purchase order for several vehicles for the Sheboygan Police Department.

Chief Domagalski explained that pre-ordering these vehicles is necessary due to supply chain issues.

MOTION TO RECOMMEND THE COMMON COUNCIL ADOPT RES. NO. 92-24-25.

Motion made by Vice Chair La Fave, seconded by Alderperson Peterson.

Voting Yea: Chair Rust, Vice Chair La Fave, Alderperson Heidemann, Alderperson Peterson.

8. Res. No. 84-24-25 (10-7-24) A Resolution authorizing the appropriate City officials to enter into a Clinical Affiliation Agreement with St. Nicholas Hospital of the Hospital Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis (St. Nicholas Hospital d/b/a Prevea Health) for firefighter paramedic continuing education.

Assistant Chief Lubbert discussed the Clinical Affiliation Agreement.

MOTION TO RECOMMEND THE COMMON COUNCIL ADOPT RES. NO. 84-24-25.

Motion made by Alderperson Heidemann, seconded by Vice Chair La Fave.

Voting Yea: Chair Rust, Vice Chair La Fave, Alderperson Heidemann, Alderperson Peterson.

11. R. O. No. 57-24-25 (9-16-24) by City Clerk submitting various license applications: Cigarette/Tobacco Lic. App. No. 3687 - Ryan Menzer (The Cigar Box).

ACA Kratz informed the committee that the Municipal Code does not permit retail sales of cigarette/tobacco out of homes. Ryan Menzer appeared before the committee and explained the details of his proposed business. Mr. Menzer indicated he is a licensed wholesale distributor of cigars and tobacco and he would use the license to sell to individuals/friends by word of mouth with no signage at the home.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE LICENSE APPLICATION OF APP. NO. 3687 – RYAN MENZER (THE CIGAR BOX).

Motion made by Alderperson Heidemann, seconded by Vice Chair La Fave.

Voting Yea: Alderperson Heidemann.

Voting Nay: Chair Rust, Vice Chair La Fave, Alderperson Peterson.

Chair Rust indicated that he would like to have a discussion regarding a possible change to the ordinance on one of the November meeting agendas.

9. Presentations by potential applicants for available “Class B” alcohol beverage license(s).

There are presently two (2) “Class B” alcohol beverage license available. Bailey Kupfer, Dave Engeldinger, Gerardo Reynoso, Gerald Feger, James Owen, Jesse Waraich, Ge Xiong, Ricardo Montes, and Luke Pfeifer all appeared before the committee to present their cases regarding pre-application for the available licenses.

Bailey Kupfer spoke on behalf of the Watershed Hotel, 838 N 15th Street. They have been open since September 1, 2022. They still need a “Class B” license for their bar and their venue space. Ms. Kupfer noted that not having a “Class B” license is having a negative impact on event bookings. Their bar would also be open to the public.

David Engeldinger spoke on behalf of the Historic Sheboygan Masonic Lodge Foundation. They are interested in a liquor license for their location at 1138 Union Avenue (former VFW Hall). The original bar with kitchen is located in the basement. Mr. Engeldinger noted that this is a charitable private foundation and is only open to members and their guests, although they may occasionally open to the public or host private dinners for fundraising. Their core group of members consists of approximately 20 people.

Gerardo Reynoso spoke on behalf of Club Leon located at 933 Indiana Avenue. They have been open for 18 months and business is not as good as it could be because they don’t have a liquor license.

Gerald Feger and James Owen spoke on behalf of Uptown Slice, 1116 Michigan Avenue. They have been open for 18 months and they would like to serve select upscale liquors and canned cocktails. They are open until 10 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Waraich spoke on behalf of Ambarsariya Bar & Grill, an addition to the Pig Stop at 2921 North 15th Street. They will be serving Indian food and anticipate opening in November of 2024. It will be mostly take-out food.

Ge Xiong spoke on behalf of C&G Bar Lounge (formerly El Camino) located at 819 Michigan Avenue. There is a capacity of 140 people in the banquet hall. Presently they are open Wednesday through Saturday but would like to expand hours in the future. They have a land contract with the previous El Camino owner and they are able to use that liquor license at this time.

Ricardo Montes spoke regarding Pops Burger & Pizza on Michigan Avenue and indicated he wants to open an additional wine bar business in another building on Michigan Avenue. It would have a 40-person capacity and they would serve some Pops food and possibly have a food truck there also.

Luke Pfeifer spoke on behalf of Harbor Winds Hotel, 905 South 8th Street. He indicated they purchased the business in May 2023 and will be open year-round. They have renovated the front desk and added a bar to expand the lobby. The bar would be open to the public, would close by 11 p.m., and has a capacity of approximately 40 people.

10. Discussion and action regarding granting opportunity to apply for available "Class B" alcohol beverage license(s).

MOTION TO INVITE C&G BAR LOUNGE TO APPLY FOR ONE OF THE AVAILABLE "CLASS B" ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSES.

Motion made by Alderperson Peterson, seconded by Vice Chair La Fave.

Voting Yea: Chair Rust, Vice Chair La Fave, Alderperson Peterson.

Voting Nay: Alderperson Heidemann.

MOTION TO INVITE WATERSHED HOTEL TO APPLY FOR ONE OF THE AVAILABLE "CLASS B" ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSES.

Motion made by Alderperson Peterson, seconded by Vice Chair La Fave.

Voting Yea: Chair Rust, Vice Chair La Fave, Alderperson Heidemann, Alderperson Peterson.

12. R. O. No. 67-24-25 (10-7-24) by City Clerk submitting various license applications.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE DRIFTWOOD CHANGE OF AGENT CONTINGENT UPON THE AGENT CLARIFYING THAT HE HAS NOT VIOLATED FEDERAL LAW, STATE LAW, OR OTHER LOCAL ORDINANCES; HOLD THE "CLASS B" LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION OF MIFORTUNA LLC AND CALL IN A MEMBER OF THE LLC TO THE NEXT LHPS STAFF COMMITTEE MEETING; APPROVE THE "CLASS B" LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION OF LAKESHORE BOWLING LLC CONTINGENT UPON ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE LLC ANSWERING THAT HE HAS NO PENDING VIOLATIONS OF ANY LAWS OR ORDINANCES AGAINST HIM; GRANT WITH A WARNING THE PETEKS LLC "CLASS B" LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION CONTINGENT UPON A CORRECTLY FILLED OUT APPOINTMENT OF AGENT FORM; APPROVE THE "CLASS B" BEER LICENSE AND "CLASS C" LICENSE APPLICATIONS OF AMBARSARIYA BAR AND GRILL, INC. CONTINGENT UPON THE SOLE OWNER OF THE CORPORATION COMPLETING THE RESPONSIBLE BEVERAGE SERVER TRAINING REQUIREMENT; GRANT WITH A WARNING THE CIGARETTE/TOBACCO LICENSE APPLICATION OF ANDY'S RESTAURANT & BAR LLC.

Motion made by Alderperson Peterson, seconded by Vice Chair La Fave.

Voting Yea: Chair Rust, Vice Chair La Fave, Alderperson Heidemann, Alderperson Peterson.

NEXT MEETING DATE

13. The next committee meeting is scheduled to be held on October 30, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.

ADJOURN

14. Motion to adjourn

MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 5:54 PM.

Motion made by Alderperson Heidemann, seconded by Vice Chair La Fave.

Voting Yea: Chair Rust, Vice Chair La Fave, Alderperson Heidemann, Alderperson Peterson.