

VILLAGE OF THORNTON, COUNTY OF COOK  
MINUTES OF THE LIQUOR COMMISSION HEARING – AUGUST 5, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Acting President Pisarzewski called the Liquor Commission Hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present at Roll Call: Acting Liquor Commissioner Pisarzewski.

Also Present: Attorney Dillner.

RESENTATION

Attorney Dillner stated this is a hearing before the local Liquor Commissioner, Mayor Pisarzewski, to determine whether or not to revoke, suspend or repeal the License 2099, Class 2 tavern and package, license issued to Beverage and Mixer, Inc. dba NG Distillery. Notice of the hearing was sent to Mr. Garcia on 7/26/2024. The Village will proceed, then Mr. Garcia will respond.

Village of Thornton Building Inspector David Habecker stated he was familiar with the property located at 110 East Margaret Street, Thornton. He commented the building is currently owned by Mr. Garcia and he is attempting to permit it to be a restaurant/bar. At this time, the building is unfinished and has no certificate of occupancy. There are no utilities available to the building at this time.

It was determined Mr. Garcia does not have a Village business license at this time; but he was issued a liquor license in July of 2021. It was done to help him through the process of getting all the licenses required to sell liquor at that facility because it typically takes so long. The original permit for the building was taken out on September 20, 2023. This work has not been completed. Liquor License 2099 is a Class 2 Tavern and Package license which requires a business license and occupancy for the premises. Mr. Garcia has neither of those requirements.

Noel Garcia, owner of Beverage and Mixer, Inc. dba NG Distillery, agreed the liquor license was given to them in order to initiate all the paperwork required. They have not been operating in any capacity as a Class 2. There have been no people in and out. There has only been storage. The goal was to get the Class 2; however, there are multiple delays that have occurred. As far as the liquor license, he has only ever done anything outside the building. It's been exclusively promotional, festivals, donating to tastings. They have not been fully functioning or operating. He would like to keep the license, even if the Board doesn't allow him to do anything. If he loses this license, it will initiate a chain of events wherein he will lose much of the other paperwork associated with the license. So he would like to have a chance to speak with other people in the industry to possibly "park" his license with them until he could get it back. Mr. Garcia explained the company he is getting his equipment from which is Foggy Mountain Spirits in Michigan. It is a common distilling practice to get spirits from larger producers to supplement your production. Mr. Garcia is making his product in Michigan; and once the produce is made, it is transferred and bonded to him. It's a common and legal practice. It's all done according to the rules. The product is listed on the internet

but it cannot be purchased. The only time it's been sold is for festivals or charity events through their liquor licenses. Mr. Garcia explained he buys ingredients, makes the product at the Foggy Mountain Spirits plant in Michigan using their equipment, then purchases the product he made.

He reiterated that he is asking for the Board to allow him to have the liquor license but only do outside sales and on-line retail until his building is ready for occupancy.

Attorney Dillner reported the Liquor Commissioner could make a decision now or take this matter under advisement and render a decision by the end of the week.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for the good and welfare of the Village, Acting Liquor Commissioner adjourned the Hearing at 6:16 p.m.

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Joseph Pisarzewski, Acting President

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Debra L. Pisarzewski, Clerk