City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St. Ann Arbor, MI 48104 http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx



Action Minutes

Friday, December 20, 2013 3:00 PM

Guy C. Larcom, Jr. Building, 301 E. Huron St. 2nd Flr.

Council Liquor License Review Committee

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair, Jane Lumm, called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. City Clerk Jacqueline Beaudry, Assistant City Attorney Mary Fales, City Treasurer Matt Horning and Chief Building Official Ralph Welton were in attendance.

Present: 2 - Mike Anglin and Jane Lumm

Absent: 1 - Sumi Kailasapathy

NOMINATION OF CHAIR

Councilmember Anglin nominated Jane Lumm to continue in her capacity as Chair of the committee. Councilmember Lumm accepted the nomination.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

With unanimous consent, the agenda was approved as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

14-0005 Council Liquor License Review Committee - September 20, 2013

Attachments: 2013-09-20 Liquor committee minutes

A motion was made by Councilmember Anglin, seconded by Councilmember Lumm, that the Minutes be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council by 2/3/2014. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

14-0004

Resolution to Recommend Approval of Issuance of a Downtown Development District Liquor License to The Lunch Room, LLC

Joel Panozzo, owner of The Lunch Room, introduced himself to the committee members and spoke about his business. He explained the vegan concept of the restaurant and stated he felt that a redevelopment liquor license would allow the business to grow to expand their clientele.

Several questions were raised regarding the seating capacity and whether the business was large enough to qualify for the redevelopment approval process. Chief Building Official Ralph Welton stated he would work with the applicant to review the seating plans and code compliance.

A motion was made by Councilmember Anglin, seconded by Councilmember Lumm, that the Resolution be returned to staff to proceed with a review and recommendation. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

Staff was instructed to bring the resolution back to the committee with recommendations.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Renewals - Review of staff Recommendations

City Clerk Jacqueline Beaudry provided the committee with copies of the staff review of annual liquor license renewals. City Treasurer Matt Horning and Building Official Ralph Welton were available to answer any questions regarding their recommendations.

Several objections were noted by Treasury due to delinquent personal property taxes:

The Arena, 203 E. Washington - \$7,649.07, plus Building Official objections
Banfield's Bar and Grill, 3140 Packard - \$1879.90, plus additional past-due invoices
Cafe Zola, 112 W. Washington - \$7,102.26, plus additional past-due invoices

In addition to these three tax delinquencies, the City Treasurer recommended that the committee send letters to all on-premise licensees who were listed as having past-due invoices due to the City. The committee members concurred.

Mr. Welton reviewed his recommendations. He stated he would like the City Clerk to send letters to all businesses who he noted either were overdue for inspection or had previous violations or expired permits noted. The committee concurred.

The committee directed the City Clerk to send letters advising the licensees, identified by the City Treasurer and the Chief Building Official, of the outcome of the staff investigation and that if the basis of those objections was not resolved on or before January 16, 2014, that the committee may recommend City Council set a hearing on those objections, which may result in an ultimate recommendation of non-renewal.

The City Clerk stated she would send all of the letters by January 3 with a due date to the licensees of January 16 for payment or to contact the building official regarding his objections. At the January 17 Council Liquor Committee meeting, staff would provide a final list to the committee to review and provide to City Council in preparation for a possible liquor license hearing. February 3 was currently scheduled as the date that Council would review the committee's recommendations and set the date for the hearing. The hearing would be scheduled for a date between February 24 and March 7.

The committee requested that Fire Marshal Reka Farrackand provide an explanation regarding her review. Clerk Beaudry stated she would follow-up on this question.

INFORMATION/UPCOMING BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business before the committee, Chair Lumm called the meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.