



MINUTES OF THE BLOOMINGTON
LIQUOR COMMISSION
November 14, 2017; 4:00 PM

1. Call to order

The meeting of the Liquor Commission was called to order by Commissioner Renner at 4:00 p.m. on November 14, 2017.

2. Present

Tari Renner and Lindsey Powell, and Jack Bataoel Commissioners, George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, Asst. Police Chief Ken Bays, and Cherry Lawson, City Clerk.

3. Public Comment

Commissioner Renner opened the meeting to receive Public Comment. No individuals provided comments during the meeting.

4. Consideration of approving the Commission Minutes of October 10, 2017.

Motion by Commissioner Bataoel seconded by Commissioner Powell approve the minutes of October 10, 2017 with corrections.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

The following was presented:

5. Consideration of the request from Ryan Frye and Morgan Ott to allow moderate consumption of alcohol at their December 16, 2017 wedding reception to be held at Miller Park Pavilion.

Patrick Hanes, owner of Hanes on Main, LLC in Mackinaw stated he was there to represent the bride and groom, that his business would be providing the liquor service for the wedding reception of Ryan Frye and Morgan Ott.

Commissioner Renner asked whether the City has a reciprocity agreement with Mackinaw. Mr. Boyle stated that the City does have one.

Commissioner Renner asked what type of service Mr. Hanes will be providing for the wedding. Mr. Hanes stated just beer and wine service.

Motion by Commissioner Bataoel, seconded by Commissioner Powell, to recommend to the November 27, 2017 City Council meeting approval of the request from Ryan Frye and Morgan Ott to allow moderate consumption of alcohol at their December 16, 2017 wedding reception to be held at Miller Park Pavilion.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

The following was presented:

- 6. Consideration of the application of Nightshop, LLC, d/b/a Nightshop, located at 517 N. Main Street; Bloomington 61701, requesting an RAS liquor license which would allow the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week.**

Bloomington Liquor Commissioner Renner called a public hearing on November 14, 2017 on the application submitted by Nightshop, LLC, d/b/a Nightshop, located at 517 N. Main Street, requesting an RAS liquor license which would allow the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week.

Christopher Golwitzer, owner of the business, addressed the Commission. He stated that the business would be a restaurant that offered vegan and vegetarian items on the menu. The restaurant would not be exclusively vegan and vegetarian. The business also intends to host live music. He understands that in order to maintain a restaurant liquor license the business must get at least 51% of its revenue from food as opposed to alcohol sales. The business will have a full kitchen and will serve meals during the entire time it is open. The hours of operation would be 7:00 A.M. until 1:00 A.M. during the week and 2:00 A.M. on weekend nights. On Sunday, the business would open at 11:00 A.M. and close at 8:00 P.M.

Commissioner Renner questioned BASSETT (Beverage Alcohol Sellers and Servers Education) training certifications. Mr. Golwitzer stated he and Mr. Spears as well as its bartender have received BASSETT training.

Mr. Boyle asked whether Mr. Golwitzer or his partner, Mr. Spears, have any experience working in the restaurant or bar business. Mr. Spears stated that neither of them have experience, but that they have a kitchen manager who has run a restaurant in Normal. They also have a bar manager who ran the front bar at Shuba's, an establishment in Chicago. Though they do not have experience as restaurateurs, they were bringing in people that can help them.

Mr. Boyle asked whether Nightshop expects to have bands playing on the patio. Mr. Golwitzer stated it is not the immediate priority at this time. Although they would like to have the option to have outdoor music in the summertime in the afternoon. If they have music at night, it will be inside.

The Mayor asked if there was any input from the Police regarding the application. Assistant Chief Ken Bays addressed the Commission. He expressed some concerns regarding adding additional liquor service to this already congested area. There is already up to seven establishments that serve alcohol in the two block area. Having heard their business model and plan, he commended them for the steps they have taken. He does have some concerns about under age persons being in the establishment after dinner time.

The Mayor asked Robert Coombs from the Building Safety Department if he had any concerns. Mr. Coombs addressed the Commission. He stated he did not have any immediate concerns. He had not seen the exact plans for the patio. In response to a question from Commissioner Powell as to occupancy, he stated that under dinner conditions the interior had a capacity of 121 with an additional external capacity based on square footage of 75 people. If the tables were removed and the floor area thereby opened up, the maximum occupancy would be 274 interior, with a maximum, including the exterior, of 530 people. For a stand up area, 5 square feet per person is used to determine maximum occupancy load. For a table and chair setup, 15 square feet per person is figured in determining maximum occupancy.

Commissioner Renner asked if there were any other persons wishing to speak in favor of the application or in opposition to it. No one came forward.

After some discussion, and in response to concerns raised by Commissioner Bataoel about persons under 21 being on the premises in the late night hours, Mr. Golwitzer agreed to a condition on the license that no persons under 21 years of age would be allowed on the premises after 10:00 P.M.

Motion by Commissioner Bataoel, seconded by Commissioner Powell, to recommend that the City Council approve the application of Nightshop, LLC, d/b/a Nightshop, located at 517 N. Main Street requesting an RAS liquor license which would allow the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week, with the condition that no members of the public under 21 years of age be allowed in the premises after 10:00 P.M.

Commissioner Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Commissioners Powel, Bataoel and Renner.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

- 7. Consideration of the application of HARITHA, Inc. d/b/a as Bloomington CITGO located at 1810 Morris Avenue, Bloomington, 61701 requesting a GPBS liquor license which would allow the sale of packaged beer and wine only for consumption off the premises seven (7) days a week.**

Commissioner Renner asked whether there were any representatives from Haritha, Inc. There were no representatives present. Commissioner Renner asked for a motion to table for first appearance this item until the December 12, 2017 Liquor Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Powell motion, Commissioner Bataoel seconded the motion to table the application of HARITHA, Inc. d/b/a as Bloomington CITGO located at 1810 Morris Avenue, Bloomington, 61701 requesting a GPBS liquor license which would allow the sale of packaged beer and wine only for consumption off the premises seven (7) days a week to for a first appearance on December 12, 2017.

Commissioner Renner directed the Clerk to call the roll which resulted in the following:

Ayes: Commissioners Powel, Bataoel and Renner.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

11. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Renner to adjourn. Time: 4:43 p.m.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Respectfully submitted,

Cherry L. Lawson, CMC
City Clerk