



MINUTES
LIQUOR COMMISSION - REGULAR SESSION
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2024, 4:00 PM

The Liquor Commission convened in regular session at 4:00 p.m., November 12, 2024. Commissioner Meister called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Lindsey Meister	Commissioner	Present
Mboka Mwilambwe	Commissioner	Present

Staff Advisors

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Amanda Stutsman	Deputy City Clerk	Present
George Boyle	Asst. Corporation Counsel	Present
Chris McAllister	Building Official	Present
Paul Williams	Asst. Police Chief	Present

Public Comment

No public comment was received.

Consent Agenda

Items listed on the Consent Agenda are approved with one motion; Items pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion are listed and voted on separately.

Commissioner Meister made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mwilambwe, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Item 4.A. Consideration and Action on Approving the Minutes of the October 8, 2024, Regular Liquor Commission Meeting. (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

Commissioner Mwilambwe directed the clerk to call roll:

AYES: Mwilambwe; Meister

Motion carried.

Regular Agenda

All license creations, amendments, or transfers are contingent upon compliance with all building, health, and safety codes.

The following item was presented:

Item 5. A. Public Hearing and Action on an Application from American Drug Stores, LLC, d/b/a Osco Drug Store #0116, located at 2201 E. Oakland Ave., Requesting Approval of Change in Parent Company for their Class PAS (Package, All Types of Alcohol, and Sunday Sales) Liquor License.

Commissioner Mwilambwe opened the Public Hearing at 4:02 p.m.

Anne Junia, Applicant's Attorney, after being sworn, addressed the Commission. She stated that Kroger was purchasing Albertsons, which would result in Kroger becoming the ultimate parent company. However, this change would not impact the licensee level, as American Drug Stores LLC will remain the same. She noted the change of ownership has not yet taken place but wanted to comply with the jurisdiction's ownership requirements.

Commissioner Mwilambwe asked if the manager would remain the same.

Ms. Junia stated the manager and corporate officers would remain unchanged.

Commissioner Meister had no additional questions.

Staff had no additional questions.

Commissioner Mwilambwe asked if there was anyone in the audience present to speak for or against the item. No one came forward.

Commissioner Mwilambwe closed the Public Hearing at 4:04 p.m.

Commissioner Meister made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mwilambwe, to positively recommend the Item to Council as presented.

Commissioner Mwilambwe directed the clerk to call roll:

AYES: Mwilambwe; Meister

Motion carried.

The following item was presented:

Item 5. B. Public Hearing and Action on an Application from American Drug Stores, LLC, d/b/a Osco Drug Store #3775, located at 2103 N. Veteran's Parkway, Unit #334, Requesting Approval of Change in Parent Company for their Class PAS (Package, All Types of Alcohol, and Sunday Sales) Liquor License.

Commissioner Mwilambwe opened the Public Hearing at 4:05 p.m.

Anne Junia, Applicant's Attorney, after being sworn, addressed the Commission. She repeated her statement that Kroger was purchasing Albertsons, which would result in Kroger becoming the ultimate parent company. However, this change would not impact the licensee level, as American Drug Stores LLC will remain the same. She noted the change of ownership has not yet taken place but wanted to comply with the jurisdiction's ownership requirements. She noted the manager and corporate officers will also remain unchanged.

Commissioner Meister had no additional questions.

Staff had no additional questions.

Commissioner Mwilambwe asked if there was anyone in the audience present to speak for or against the item. No one came forward.

Commissioner Mwilambwe closed the Public Hearing at 4:06 p.m.

Commissioner Meister made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mwilambwe, to positively recommend the Item to Council as presented.

Commissioner Mwilambwe directed the clerk to call roll:

AYES: Mwilambwe; Meister

Motion carried.

The following item was presented:

Item 5. C. Public Hearing and Action on an Application from Family Dollar, LLC, d/b/a Family Dollar Store # 21742, located at 1512 W. Market St., Unit 400, Requesting Approval of the Creation of a Class PBS (Package, Beer & Wine Only, and Sunday Sales) Liquor License.

George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel informed the Commission that the Applicant requested to move the hearing to next month.

Amanda Stutsman, Deputy City Clerk, stated the Item would appear on December 20, 2024, and the meeting would be held at 4:00 p.m. in the same meeting room.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.D. Public Hearing and Action on an Application from Pour Bros. Co., d/b/a Pour Bros., located at 236 E. Front St., Requesting Approval of a Redefinition of Premises to include 234 1/2 E. Front St. for their Class TAS (Tavern, All Types of Alcohol, and Sunday Sales) Liquor License.

Commissioner Mwilambwe opened the Public Hearing at 4:07 p.m.

Robbie Matheson, Co-Owner of Pour Bros. Co., after being sworn, addressed the Commission. Mr. Matheson stated they were expanding into the address 234 1/2 East Front Street to open an arcade.

Commissioner Mwilambwe asked if patrons would be able to eat and drink in the arcade area and if anything additional would change, specifically staffing. Mr. Matheson explained they would hire additional staff and noted the two rooms were now internally connected. He mentioned that they had taken steps to manage the new space properly, such as creating a doorway between the bar and the arcade for easy access and monitoring, and not having a handle on the exterior door to the arcade which required all guests to have to enter through the Pour Brothers side. This change allowed staff to monitor patrons entering and to check IDs.

Commissioner Meister asked if the hours would remain the same. Mr. Matheson stated the hours would remain the same, but their hope was to add Sunday hours as well. He stated they do not plan to be open late like a typical bar would.

Commissioner Meister asked what the capacity of the rooms would be. Mr. Matheson stated they were not seeking an occupancy count over the original occupancy permitted and that the Zoning Department approved their occupancy.

Chris McAllister, Building Official, stated the building load occupancy was approx. 130.

Asst. Police Chief Paul Williams asked if anyone under the age of 21 would be permitted on either side. Mr. Matheson stated they would allow guests under 21 as long as they were accompanied by a legal guardian. He explained their plan was to add a sign on the doors stating, *'Persons under the age of 21 must be accompanied by a legal guardian.'* and that at 8:00 p.m., staff planned to not permit anyone under the age of 21 in either room.

Staff had no additional questions.

Commissioner Mwilambwe asked if there was anyone in the audience present to speak for or against the item. No one came forward.

Commissioner Mwilambwe closed the Public Hearing at 4:12 p.m.

Amanda Stutsman, Deputy City Clerk, clarified the Item did not need to go to Council for approval.

Commissioner Meister made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mwilambwe, to approve as presented.

Commissioner Mwilambwe directed the clerk to call roll:

AYES: Mwilambwe; Meister

Motion carried.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.E. Public Hearing and Action on an Application from Chi Family Express, LLC, located at 3907 General Electric Rd., Unit 6, Requesting Approval of a Redefinition of Premises to include Units 5 & 6 and a Change in Classification from a Class RBS (Restaurant, Beer & Wine Only, and Sunday Sales) Liquor License to a Class RAS (Restaurant, All Types of Alcohol, and Sunday Sales) Liquor License.

Commissioner Mwilambwe opened the Public Hearing at 4:14 p.m.

Jacob Konczyk, Co-Owner of Chi Family Express, LLC, after being sworn, addressed the Commission. He explained they had been operating a restaurant for the past 2.5 years and had recently obtained a beer and wine liquor license about 5 months ago. They had now expanded into the unit next door by tearing down the wall between the two units. They hoped to obtain a full liquor license to operate a full-service bar in the expanded space.

Commissioner Mwilambwe asked if they would hire additional staff.

Mr. Konczyk stated they may need to hire additional staff to accommodate the expansion and would ensure all staff completed the proper training procedures for serving alcohol.

Commissioner Meister asked what the capacity of the rooms would be. Mr. Konczyk stated the capacity of both units would be approx. 35 to 40.

Chris McAllister, Building Official, stated 35 to 40 would be the approx. number of seats but from a fire code and building code standpoint, the units would be well under 100.

Commissioner Meister asked if staff would be BASSET certified. Mr. Konczyk stated yes.

Commissioner Mwilambwe asked how many employees typically served. Mr. Konczyk stated they had two employees at the moment and did not anticipate needing additional staff at this time.

Commissioner Mwilambwe asked about the hours of operation. Mr. Konczyk stated they were open until 9:30 p.m. on weekdays and 10:00 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

Asst. Police Chief Paul Williams asked if there was any intention to rent out space for a larger party. Mr. Konczyk stated they would allow those patrons to be the primary patrons of the seating area but did not plan to rent out the new unit. AC Williams asked Mr. Konczyk to call the Police Department if they changed their mind on renting it out. Mr. Konczyk stated he would.

Staff had no additional questions.

Commissioner Mwilambwe asked if there was anyone in the audience present to speak for or against the item. No one came forward.

Commissioner Mwilambwe closed the Public Hearing at 4:17 p.m.

Amanda Stutsman, Deputy City Clerk, clarified that the redefinition of premises could be approved by the Liquor Commission but that the change in classification required Council approval.

Commissioner Meister made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mwilambwe, to approve the redefinition of premises to include Units 5 and 6 and to positively recommend the change in classification to Council as presented.

Commissioner Mwilambwe directed the clerk to call roll:

AYES: Mwilambwe; Meister

Motion carried.

Old Business

No Old Business was discussed.

New Business

No New Business was discussed.

Adjournment

Commissioner Meister made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mwilambwe, to adjourn the meeting.

AYES: Mwilambwe; Meister

Motion carried (viva voce).

The Meeting Adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON



Mboka Mwilambwe, Commissioner



Amanda Stutsman, Deputy City Clerk

