



MINUTES
LIQUOR COMMISSION - REGULAR SESSION
TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023, 4:00 PM

The Liquor Commission convened in regular session at 4:00 PM, May 9, 2023. Commissioner Mwilambwe called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Mboka Mwilambwe	Chair & Liquor Commissioner	Present
Lindsey Meister	Liquor Commissioner	Present

Staff Advisors

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Amanda Stutsman	Deputy City Clerk	Present
George Boyle	Asst. Corporation Counsel	Present
Ken Bays	Asst. Police Chief	Present
Ashley Lara	Records & Licensing Specialist	Present

Public Comment

No public comment was received.

Consent Agenda

No items on the Consent Agenda.

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 6. A. Public Hearing on the Application from Creativets, Whose Event, "Tailgates & Tallboys" will be Held at the Interstate Center, Located at 1106 Interstate Dr., Requesting a Class LA (Limited, All Types of Alcohol) Liquor License, as requested by the City Clerk Department.

Commissioner Mwilambwe opened the Public Hearing at 4:03 P.M.

Deathridge, a Board Member of Creativets, after being sworn, explained the history of Creativets. He spoke about how the organization had grown over the years and worked with many different artists. He described how the organization was associated with Tailgates and Tallboys and explained how Creativets would be integrated into the event. They planned to create a healing process through arts and music for Veterans

and partnering with USA Concerts. They would have a writing lab that partners Veterans with songwriters and big-name artists to tell their stories in the form of a song.

Wayne Klein, President of USA Concerts, after being sworn, addressed the Commission.

Commissioner Mwilambwe asked for details about security, alcohol service, and the expected number of attendees. Mr. Klein explained that there would be identification checkpoints in various places in the area as well as at each bar. He stated that each station would have a BASSET Certified supervisor, and all bartenders and supervisors would be trained ahead of time about the procedure. He said that everyone who gets carded would receive a wristband. He explained that last year there were around 58,000 over three and a half days, but this year they expect to have around 40,000.

When asked about hours of operation, Mr. Klein stated that the hours were 5:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. on Wednesday and 2:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. Thursday through Saturday. He described the general duties of volunteers and said they would have about 330 this year.

Commissioner Mwilambwe asked about where the bars would be located, and Mr. Klein pointed to the map on the screen. Mr. Klein stated that all bars planned to be in the Town of Normal, but they were open to having pop-up bars on the Bloomington side. They also planned to keep Tailgates and Tallboys in Bloomington each year. He spoke about the map and where parking and camping were located. He explained that 5% of revenue would be donated to Creativets. He explained conversations he had with the State of Illinois regarding a 501(c)(3) Liquor License and the ability to return unused alcohol at the end of the event.

Commissioner Mwilambwe asked how long he had been with USA Concerts. Mr. Klein explained he had been with USA Concerts since 2019 and explained various large events the company participated in.

Commissioner Meister asked if there were issues with last year and Ken Bays, Asst. Police Chief, explained that staff were working through some minor issues.

Commissioner Meister asked which bars would be open late and Mr. Klein pointed out, on the provided map, which bars would be open until 1:00 a.m. and which would be open until 2:00 a.m. She confirmed that there were multiple ID checkpoints and Mr. Klein agreed.

Commissioner Meister asked where the entry points were and a Representative from USA Concerts pointed out the various entrances on the maps.

Commissioner Meister confirmed with Mr. Klein that there would be security and Mr. Klein said yes and explained the security plan. She asked where the camping would be located and they pointed out the camping locations on the map.

George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel asked if they knew where not to sell due to McLean County Fair's liquor license and Mr. Klein confirmed that he was aware of the locations where their license was held and confirmed they would not sell/serve at those locations.

Commissioner Mwilambwe asked how many acts there would be, and Mr. Klein stated that there will be 30 throughout the four-day event.

Commissioner Mwilambwe asked and staff stated they had no additional concerns.

Commissioner Mwilambwe closed the Public Hearing at 4:25 p.m.

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

Commissioner Mwilambwe directed the clerk to call roll:

AYES: Mwilambwe; Meister

Motion carried.

The following item was presented:

Item 6.B. Continued Hearing on a Citation (#2023-002) Issued to LKH, Inc., d/b/a Cheek's Bar & Grill, at 1206 Towanda Ave., for Violating Chapter 6, Section 37(e)(12) of the Bloomington City Code Relating to Unpaid Food & Beverage Taxes, as requested by the Legal Department.

George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, provided an update. He reported that all taxes, penalties, and interest were paid in the amount of \$900 and the fines agreement in the amount of \$600 had yet to be paid.

Old Business

No Old Business was discussed.

New Business

No New Business was discussed.

Executive Session

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment

Commissioner Meister made a motion, seconded by Chair & Liquor Commissioner Mwilambwe, to adjourn.

Commissioner Mwilambwe directed the clerk to call roll:

AYES: Mwilambwe; Meister.

Motion carried (viva voce).

The Meeting Adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON



Mboka Mwilambwe, Commissioner



Amanda Stutsman, Deputy City Clerk