



MINUTES
LIQUOR COMMISSION - REGULAR SESSION
TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2023, 4:00 PM

The Liquor Commission convened in regular session at 4:00 PM, March 14, 2023. Chair Mboka 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	Absent
Chris McAllister	Building Official	Absent
Catherine Dunlap	Downtown Development Specialist	Present
Ashley Lara	Records & Licensing Specialist	Present

Public Comment

No public comment was received.

Consent Agenda

Items listed on the Consent Agenda are approved with one motion; Items pulled by Council 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 to approve the Minutes of the December 15, 2022, Regular Liquor Commission Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department.

Item 4.B. Consideration and action to approve the Minutes of the January 10, 2023, Regular Liquor Commission Meeting, as requested by the City Clerk Department.

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 the Request from the Board of Trustees of Illinois State University, d/b/a Shakespeare Festival, whose event will be held at the Ewing Cultural Center, located at 48 Sunset Rd., requesting a Class LB (Limited Beer and Wine Only) Liquor License, as requested by the City Clerk Department.

Commissioner Mwilambwe recused himself at 4:02 p.m. because of his association with Illinois State University.

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

Lauren Palmer, Finance & Communications Manager, and Derek Munson, Managing Director, after being sworn in, addressed the Commission. Ms. Palmer explained the nature of the event. Mr. Munson stated approximately 7,000 people have attended past events and he explained canned beer and wine would be made available from the concession area.

Commissioner Meister asked if staff would be BASSET Certified. Mr. Munson answered yes. He also stated wristbands were not used as they tended to attract an older crowd.

Commissioner Meister asked what the hours were. Ms. Palmer requested hours from 5:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

George Boyle, Assistant Corporation Counsel, stated there had been no issues in the past and he had no concerns with the requested hours.

Staff had no additional concerns.

Commissioner Meister closed the public hearing at 4:07 p.m.

Commissioner Meister made a motion to positively recommend the Item to Council.

Commissioner Mwilambwe returned at 4:08 p.m.

Motion carried.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.B. Public Hearing on the Application from Miller Park Zoological Society (Applicant), Whose Special Event "Brews at the Zoo" Will Be Held at the Miller Park Zoo, Located at 1020 S. Morris Ave., is Requesting a Class LB (Limited Beer and Wine Only) Liquor License, as requested by the City Clerk Department.

Commissioner Mwilambwe opened the Public Hearing at 4:09 p.m.

No representative was present on behalf of the Item.

Catherine Dunlap, Downtown Development Specialist, after being sworn in, spoke on behalf of the special event process. She stated that this was an annual event and there were no problems reported to her department in the past. Mr. Boyle agreed.

Commissioner Meister had no questions but noted they wristband at this event, so she had no concerns.

Commissioner Mwilambwe closed the Public Hearing at 4:11 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: Meister, Mwilambwe

Motion carried.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.C. Public Hearing and Action on an Application from SMOKQUE, Inc., d/b/a Brass Pig Smoke & Ale House, Located at 602 N. Main St., Requesting Approval of a Change of Ownership for Their Class RAS (Restaurant, All Types of Alcohol, and Sunday Sales) Liquor License, as requested by the City Clerk Department.

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

Tyler Holloway, Owner, after being sworn in, addressed the Commission. He explained that one of the partners did not want to remain a partner after about a year of being in business. He said they will remove the third partner, John Van Bragt, from the ownership.

Commissioner Mwilambwe asked if there were any planned changes to the business. Mr. Holloway said no; they plan to keep everything "as is".

Mr. Boyle had no concerns from the Legal Department.

Commissioner Mwilambwe closed the Public Hearing at 4:14 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: Meister, Mwilambwe

Motion carried.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.D. Public Hearing and Action on an Application from ARV Cuisine, LLC, d/b/a Bloom Bawarchi 2.0, Located at 503 N. Prospect Rd., Unit 103-4, Requesting Approval of the Change of Ownership for Their Class RAPS (Restaurant, All Types of Alcohol, with Package and Sunday Sales) Liquor License, as requested by the City Clerk Department.

Commissioner Mwilambwe opened the Public Hearing at 4:15 p.m.

R Shekar Reddy Venumudala, Applicant, and Rakshith Reddy Venumudala, Owner, after being sworn in, address the Commission. Mr. Venumudala explained that business was exceptional. He stated he was looking to branch out to other industries, so his brother would take over. He then explained no changes would be made.

Mr. Boyle had no concerns from the Legal Department.

Commissioner Mwilambwe opened the Public Hearing at 4:17 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: Meister, Mwilambwe

Motion carried.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.E. Public Hearing on the Application from Super Rajal, LLC, d/b/a Hampton Inn, Located at 906 Maple Hill Rd., Requesting Approval of the Creation of a Class PBS (Beer and Wine Only, with Package and Sunday Sales) Liquor License, as requested by the City Clerk Department.

Commissioner Mwilambwe opened the Public Hearing at 4:19 p.m.

Paige Hadsall, General Manager, after being sworn in, addressed the Commission. Ms. Hadsall explained that because they were a Hilton Property, they were advised to offer the additional amenity of packaged beer and wine. She explained there would be 5 people in total who would sell, and they plan to become BASSET Certified upon approval.

Commissioner Meister asked what the hours of sale would be. Ms. Hadsall said they would sell between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Mr. Boyle had no concerns from the Legal Department.

Commissioner Mwilambwe closed the Public Hearing at 4:22 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: Meister, Mwilambwe

Motion carried.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.F. Public Hearing and Action on an Application from MCO QSR, Inc, d/b/a Froth & Fork, to be Located at 712 S. El Dorado Rd., Requesting Approval of a Change of Ownership and for a Change in Classification from a Class RAS (Restaurant, All Types of Alcohol, and Sunday Sales) to a Class RAPS (Restaurant, All Types of Alcohol, with Package and Sunday Sales) Liquor License, as requested by the City Clerk Department.

Commissioner Mwilambwe opened the Public Hearing at 4:23 p.m.

Siva Busa, Applicant, after being sworn in, addressed the Commission. He explained that he would keep the business “as is” but planned to sell breakfast and bar food in addition to packaged liquor. He stated his hours would be 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. Sunday - Thursday and 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday. He also mentioned he owns Aroma Indian Restaurant located next door.

Mr. Boyle had no concerns from the Legal Department.

Ashley Lara, Records & Licensing Specialist, reported there was interest in a tobacco license at some point, so business would not stay the exact same.

Commissioner Mwilambwe closed the Public Hearing at 4:27 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: Meister, Mwilambwe

Motion carried.

Old Business

No Old Business was discussed.

New Business

No New Business was discussed.

Executive Session

No Executive Session was held.

Adjournment

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

Commissioner Mwilambwe directed the clerk to call roll:

AYES: Mwilambwe; Meister.

Motion carried (viva voce).

The Meeting Adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON



Chair Mboka Mwilambwe



Amanda Stutsman, Deputy City Clerk