MINUTES OF THE BLOOMINGTON
LIQUOR COMMISSION

January 8, 2013

The Bloomington Liquor Commissioner Steve Stockton called the Liquor Hearing to order at 4:02 p.m. Present at the hearing were Liquor Commissioners Stephen F. Stockton, Marabeth Clapp and Geoffrey Tompkins; George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, Clay Wheeler, Asst. Police Chief, and Tracey Covert; City Clerk.

Commissioners absent: Steve Petersen and Mark Gibson.

Others present: Rich Buchanan, former Liquor Commissioner.

Commissioner Stockton recognized Rich Buchanan. Mr. Buchanan had resigned from the Commission after his election to the County Board. He cited state statute, (50 ILCS 105/1 - Public Officer Prohibited Activities Act). He noted his long service on the Commission with Mr. Buchanan. Their service together started on May 1, 1977. Commissioner Stockton noted that he would miss Mr. Buchanan's understanding and support. Mr. Buchanan had served on the Commission for over thirty-five (35) years. Commissioner Stockton read the Proclamation which he had authored. He offered Mr. Buchanan the opportunity to make any parting comments.

Rich Buchanan, former Liquor Commissioner, addressed the Commission. He thanked Commissioner Stockton for the recognition. He expressed his disappointment that his term on the Commission had come to an end. He noted that Commissioner Stockton would eclipse his service on the Commission by three (3) months. Each would serve over thirty-five (35) years.

He was surprised by the state statute but it was clear. He had been a proactive Commissioner. He visited licensed establishments in the Downtown and elsewhere. He thanked the Police Department as the work could be dangerous. Prior to his term as Mayor, he had been interested in the Police Department's activities. He had participated in ride alongs. He also cited his interest in the Downtown.

He had also provided outreach by the Commission to the license holders. He believed that establishing these relationships was valuable and essential. The key to a successful licensed establishment was the quality of the owner. He believed that this had been proven to be true over the years.

He was enjoying serving on the County Board.

He encouraged the Commission to think about its purpose. He believed that the Commission was at a critical point. He cited the Downtown. He anticipated progress. He encouraged the Commission to continue its proactive role.

Commissioner Tompkins noted Mr. Buchanan's tenure on the Commission. He cited his personal relationships with license holders. He noted Mr. Buchanan's institutional knowledge. Mr. Buchanan had introduced him to various license holders and had served with honor and distinction.

Commissioner Clapp stated that she had enjoyed her conversations with Mr. Buchanan. It had been fun serving with him and planned to remain in contact. She also cited his institutional knowledge.

Mr. Buchanan left the meeting for a County Board Executive Committee meeting. Time: 4:16 p.m.

The Bloomington Liquor Commissioner Stephen Stockton called the Liquor Hearing to order to hear the request of the Madison Salisbury and Patrick Fox to allow moderate consumption of alcohol at Lake Bloomington's Davis Lodge for their wedding reception on April 27, 2013. Present at the hearing were Liquor Commissioners Steve Stockton, Marabeth Clapp and Geoffrey Tompkins; George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel; Clay Wheeler, Asst. Police Chief; and Tracey Covert, City Clerk; and Garretta Schaefer, groom's mother.

Commissioners absent: Steve Petersen and Mark Gibson.

Commissioner Stockton opened the liquor hearing and requested that Madison Salisbury, bride, address the Commission regarding this request. Garretta Schaefer, groom's mother, addressed the Commission. She informed them that the wedding reception was scheduled for Saturday, April 27, 2013. She and her husband would host the reception. Times Past Inn would act as the caterer. Beer and wine would be offered at the reception. The wedding was scheduled for 3:00 p.m. Food service would begin at 5:00 p.m. The reception would end at 10:00 p.m.

Commissioner Stockton noted that currently only catered events were allowed at Davis Lodge. Ms. Schaefer expressed her opinion that there would be minimal alcohol consumption. Seventy-five percent (75%) of the guests were family. She described the Davis Lodge as lovely.

Commissioner Clapp questioned anticipated attendance. Ms. Schaefer stated eighty (80) to 100.

Motion by Commissioner Tompkins, seconded by Commissioner Clapp that the request of Madison Salisbury and Patrick Fox to allow moderate consumption of alcohol at Lake Bloomington's Davis Lodge for their wedding reception on April 27, 2013 be approved.

Motion carried.

Commissioner Stockton informed Ms. Schaefer that this item would appear on the February 11, 2013 City Council Consent Agenda. He encouraged her to attend this meeting.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting recessed at 4:21 p.m.

The Bloomington Liquor Commissioner Steve Stockton called the Liquor Hearing to order to hear the application of Auctus, LLC d/b/a Parke Hotel, located at 1413 Leslie Dr., requesting an RAS liquor license which allows the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises seven (7) days a week. Present at the hearing were Liquor Commissioners Stephen Stockton, Marabeth Clapp and Geoffrey Tompkins; George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, Clay Wheeler, Asst. Police Chief, and Tracey Covert; City Clerk, and Ricki Roeng, Core 3 Property Management and Applicant representative.

Commissioners absent: Steve Petersen and Mark Gibson.

Commissioner Stockton opened the liquor hearing and requested that the Applicant address the Commission. Ricki Roeng, Core 3 Property Management and Applicant representative, addressed the Commission. This application was due to a change in ownership.

Commissioner Stockton questioned if there were any changes planned. Mr. Roeng noted that the bank had taken possession of the property through foreclosure. An investor created an LLC, (Auctus LLC). An agreement was negotiated with Busey Bank to purchase the property. There were no structural changes planned. There was a potential for a business name change. The liquor license would include the entire premises - hotel, restaurant and banquet facilities.

Commissioner Stockton questioned if the sale of tangible items would exceed alcohol sales. Mr. Roeng had reviewed the past twelve (12) months. Liquor sales equaled a small percentage of total sales.

Commissioner Stockton questioned if the Applicant was aware of the City's liquor ordinances. He also questioned the Applicant's experience with liquor sales. Mr. Roeng responded affirmatively. He had experience in the operations of Baxter's located at 3212 E. Empire. In addition, the company had additional holdings in MO.

Commissioner Stockton questioned if there would be menu changes. Mr. Roeng responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Tompkins questioned the building's owner. Mr. Roeng was a managing member of the LLC. The LLC would own the building.

Commissioner Stockton restated that Mr. Roeng would manage the property. Mr. Roeng responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Stockton questioned if alcohol would be available via room service. Mr. Roeng responded affirmatively. Commissioner Stockton noted the license holder's responsibility.

Commissioner Clapp questioned the ownership and day to day management of the hotel. Mr. Roeng informed the Commission that he had been hired as the General Manager. His

employment would commence in two (2) weeks. Core 3 would oversee the property. He noted his hospitality experience. The plan was to retain the existing staff.

Commissioner Clapp questioned BASSET, (Beverage Alcohol Sellers & Servers Education & Training), training. Mr. Roeng could not address same.

Commissioner Clapp questioned entertainment. Mr. Roeng cited the banquet facilities. The hotel might host entertainment. In addition, there was a lounge area.

Commissioner Stockton noted that entertainment would be occasional and not routine. Mr. Roeng responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Tompkins noted that the Parke was a self contained hotel. He added that this application would replace Midas Restaurant Solutions LLC's d/b/a Parke Hotel & Conference Center, liquor license.

Commissioner Stockton questioned BASSET training. Commissioner Clapp encouraged same.

Commissioner Tompkins recommended that the bar manager and bartenders be BASSET certified within ninety (90) days. Mr. Roeng noted that Core 3 had an extensive training program.

Commissioner Stockton noted that BASSET training might become a requirement. Heartland Community College offered BASSET training. If there was an issue, then the Applicant should contact the City Clerk's Office. He described the BASSET program as a good one.

Motion by Commissioner Tompkins, seconded by Commissioner Clapp that the application of Auctus, LLC d/b/a Parke Hotel, located at 1413 Leslie Dr., 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, be approved with the following condition: 1.) the bar manager and bartenders shall be BASSET certified within ninety (90) days of the license being issued.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Commissioner Stockton stated that this application would appear on the Council's February 11, 2013 Consent Agenda. He encouraged Mr. Roeng to attend the meeting.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting recessed at 4:36 p.m.

The Bloomington Liquor Commissioner Stockton called the Liquor Hearing to order to hear the notification by Old English Inn, Ltd., d/b/a Windjammer Lounge, located at 2303 Stern Dr., currently holding a TAPS liquor license which allows the sale of all types of alcohol by the glass for consumption on the premises and the sale of all types of packaged alcohol for consumption off the premises seven (7) days a week. Present at the hearing were Liquor Commissioners Stephen Stockton, Marabeth Clapp and Geoffrey Tompkins; George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, Clay Wheeler, Asst. Police Chief, and Tracey Covert, City Clerk.

Commissioners absent: Steve Petersen and Mark Gibson.

Commissioner Stockton opened the liquor hearing and noted that this request involved a change of corporate officers. The Liquor Control Commission requires that a License holder inform the municipality and obtain a letter from same stating that the municipality had been informed and the license remains in force.

Commissioner Stockton added that the City Code also required a License holder to inform the City of a change in corporate ownership and/or corporate officers.

Commissioner Stockton noted that the current corporate officers were Mary K. Niepagen, President, and Leslie Horn, Secretary. Ms. Niepagen will remain as President and 100% stockholder. There will no longer be a corporate Secretary.

Motion by Commissioner Tompkins, seconded by Commissioner Clapp to accept the change of corporate officers for Old English Inn, Ltd., d/b/a Windjammer Lounge, located at 2303 Stern Dr., currently holding a TAPS liquor license; said license remains in force.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Tracey Covert, City Clerk, informed the Commission that a letter would be provided to the Liquor Control Commission.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting recessed at 4:38 p.m.

Commissioner Stockton opened the Liquor Hearing to Public Comment.

J. Balmer, 16 Fountain Ct., addressed the Commission. He thanked the Commission for the action taken. The Commission was headed in the right direction with more proactive enforcement. He noted the list of conditions.

Commissioner Stockton recognized the efforts of the Police Department and David Hales, City Manager.

Commissioner Stockton addressed discussion items. He noted the following: 1.) set a time to discuss BASSET, (Beverage Alcohol Sellers & Servers Education & Training), training with the license holders and 2.) text amendment regarding gambling establishments being ineligible for a liquor license. He added that the draft ordinance regarding server training needed to be amended.

Commissioner Tompkins cited a letter sent to Sam Zabek, Main St. Grill's attorney this date. Mr. Novotny would be given fourteen (14) days to respond and comply.

Commissioner Stockton addressed Main St.'s financial report. The restaurant ratio was not certified and/or prepared by an accountant.

Commissioner Clapp requested that this fact be included in the letter.

George Boyle, Asst. Corporation Counsel, addressed the Commission. He noted that the Police Department continued monthly audits. There were five (5) establishments which did not pass. In addition, the state police conducted audits. Three (3) establishments did not pass. He recommended that two (2) establishments be placed on the Commission's February 12, 2013 meeting agenda. The three (3) remaining establishments would be scheduled for the Commission's March 12, 2013 meeting. He would address the three (3) establishments which did not pass the state police audits when additional information became available. These were first violations for the majority of these establishments. He added that the number of audits were higher last month. There had been an average of twelve to fifteen (12 - 15) police audits per month.

Commissioner Stockton added that the Commission was informed of establishments that passed these audits. The Commission is not provided with information regarding those who do not pass the audit until the liquor hearing.

Clay Wheeler, Asst. Police Chief, addressed the Commission. He reviewed the establishments that had passed the City's audit.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned. Time: 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey Covert
City Clerk