



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
LICENSE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WORCESTER**

Thursday, January 18, 2024

Commissioners Present: Anthony Vigliotti, Chair
Charran Fisher, Commissioner
Maritza Cruz, Commissioner

Commissioners Absent:

Staff Present: Sergeant Thomas Needham, Worcester Police Department
Alexandra Kalkounis, Worcester Law Department
Deborah Steele, Licensing

Call to Order – 10:00 A.M.

Minutes: January 4, 2024

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the minutes of January 4, 2024.

One Day Liquor & Entertainment Requests

1. Worcester County St. Patrick's Parade Committee, Park Avenue

Request for one day liquor license

- **Sunday, March 10, 2024 – 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m**

Chip Jarry appeared upon behalf of the application. He stated that this will be for the beer garden for the St. Patrick's Day parade. Mr. Jarry stated that he will be the vendor providing the beer for the event.

Sergeant Needham asked where the beer garden would be set up. Mr. Jarry stated that he believed that it would be in the travel lane, but he is working with public works on exact location.

Sergeant Needham asked that beer garden be broken down by 3:30 so doesn't impede the travel lane.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the one-day liquor license.

List of Exhibits: Application for one day liquor license received and dated January 5, 2024.

2. ArtsWorcester, 44 Portland Street

Request for one day liquor license

- **Friday, February 16, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**
- **Friday, March 15, 2024-6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**
- **Saturday, April 13, 2024-5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**
- **Friday, May 10, 2024-6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.**

Sue Von Masziewski appeared upon behalf of the applications. Ms. Masziewski stated that they have done events like this in the past and they are for art exhibitions, and they serve beer/wine and hard seltzers.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the one-day liquor licenses.

List of Exhibits: Application for one day liquor license received and dated January 8, 2024.

Common Victualer Requests

3. Main South Eats, 7 Jackson Street

- **Sunday -Saturday – 5:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.**

Gary Young, participating remotely, stated that this for a plant based vegan food concept.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the common victualer license.

List of Exhibits: Application for common victualer license received and dated December 18, 2023.

4. Restaurante La Placita, 795 Main Street

- **9:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.**

Agosto Omayra appeared upon behalf of the application. Ms. Omayra stated that she will be serving Spanish food.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the common victualer license.

List of Exhibits: Application for common victualer license received and dated January 10, 2024.

Alcohol/Entertainment Requests

5. Assumption University, 500 Salisbury Street

- **Request for Special Section 14 Wine and Malt License**

Attorney Thomas Miller appeared upon behalf of the application. Mr. Miller stated that this would be for a community space for the students and the pub would be called Piers Pub.

Mr. Miller stated that it will mainly be seating for students and open from Noon to 11:00 p.m. daily and food would be available also.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the Special Section 14 Wine and Malt License.

List of Exhibits: Application for Special Section 14 Wine and Malt License received and dated December 10, 2023.

6. Price Chopper Operation Co of Massachusetts, 72 Pullman Street
• **Request for change of manager/officers/directors**

Attorney Gene Richard, participating remotely, stated that Price Chopper is looking to do a change of manager and change of officers/directors.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to change of manager and change of officer/directors.

List of Exhibits: Application for change of manager/officers/directors received and dated January 3, 2024.

Other Business

7. 961 Restaurants, Inc., 2 Washington Square
• **Request from 961 Restaurants, Inc – License Commission amend Rule #37 to Bottle Service**

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to withdraw the request.

Attorney Mark Bornstein requested that the Commission review the rule relative to bottle service and was asking the Commission to consider allowing bottle service with prior approval from the Commission.

The Commission state that they would be willing to look at the matter.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to continue this item to a future License Commission dated to be determined.

8. Paku Corporation, 215 Chandler Street
• **Request to credit 2023 liquor license to year 2024 liquor license**

Interpreter for Maria Rivera, participating remotely, stated that they were not open most of last year as need to install sprinklers per fire department requirements so are asking that the fee, they paid for the 2023 license be applied to the 2024 liquor license when they reopen.

The Commission stated that they would like to get more information from the fire department as to what additional work needs to be done.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to continue item to the February 1, 2024, License Commission meeting.

9. New Worcester Yellow Cab

Proposal for taxi fare increase

Current Fare: \$3.00
Mileage rate: \$2.50 per mile at interval of \$0.25 per 1/10 of a mile
Waiting time: \$23.00 per hour

Proposed increase in fare:

Starting Fare: Would remain at \$3.00
Mileage rate would increase to \$3.00 per mile at interval of \$0.25 per 1/12 of a mile
Waiting time would increase to \$28.00 per hour

William Clark appeared upon behalf of the request. Mr. Clark stated that he was there on behalf of the medallion owners in the City of Worcester to request a rate increase as it been over 10 years since an increase and cost of living has gone up for everyone.

The Commission stated that they would like to review the matter and see what communities comparable are doing.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to continue the item to the February 1, 2024 meeting.

Violation Hearings

10. Shri Krishna Hari Corporation, 65 James Street
Violation of Rules #6, #20, #21-Sale to minor, server training certificate violation

Ankit Gupta appeared to answer to the violation and waived his right to counsel.

Sergeant Needham presented the following;

On November 18, 2023, Officer Patrick Harrington and members of the Alcohol Enforcement Unit conducted compliance checks on various package stores throughout the city. A 17-year-old male accompanied the officers during the evening. The underage male was instructed to enter a package store and attempt to purchase a six pack of Miller Lite cans without providing identification. The male was instructed if asked for identification to politely inform the clerk he did not have one. The male was instructed not be confrontational at any time if not sold the item and to leave the store. The male was

given the same instructions every time he entered a different store. Prior to departing and upon return to the police station the male was administered an alcohol breathalyzer test.

As the underage male entered the stores Officer Harrington had an unobstructed view of the entrance and the times were noted upon entry. During the checks the male attempted to purchase alcohol from 20 stores.

At 12:54 p.m. the 17-year-old male entered the Licensed Premises and was able to purchase a six pack of Miller Lite cans which is an alcoholic beverage without providing any identification.

Members of the Alcohol Unit notified the store of the violation. While on scene it was determined that the staff serving the public did not have the proper serving training certificates.

Mr. Gupta stated that this is a new license for this location.

He stated that his brother was there during the incident and did ask for ID, but he let it go and sold the alcohol and that was a mistake he made.

Mr. Gupta stated that since the incident he has had all his employees liquor server trained.

Mr. Gupta stated that he did not dispute the facts presented by the police.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 that the violation occurred.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted to issue a warning.

List of Exhibits: Police Report dated December 5, 2023.

11. Dream 6 Estate LLC, 369 Burncoat Street Violation of Rules #6, #21-Sale to minor

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to postpone the hearing to the February 15, 2024 License Commission meeting.

Communications

- Communication from Anthony Annoh complaints against Taxicabs dated 10/5/2023, 10/13/2023 and 1/4/2024 and received 1/5/2024

Ms. Steele stated that they would receive reports from the Worcester Police Department and then schedule hearings on matter.

- License Commission meeting dates 2024/2025

Upon a roll vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the 2024/2025 meeting schedule

Adjournment

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to adjourn the meeting at 10:56 a.m.