



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

Thursday, October 19, 2023

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

Commissioners Absent:

Staff Present: Sergeant Thomas Needham, Worcester Police Department
Officer Patrick Harrington Worcester Police Department
Deborah Steele, Licensing

Call to Order – 10:00 A.M.

Minutes: October 5, 2023

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the minutes of October 5, 2023.

Requests for Continuances, Extensions, Postponements, & Withdrawals

One Day Liquor & Entertainment Requests

1. Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church, 635 Grove Street

- **Friday – November 17, 2023 – 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**
- **Saturday – November 18, 2023 – Noon – 5:00 p.m.**

Garro Berkerian, participating remotely, stated that the church will be having a bazaar and would like to serve beer and wine to raise funds and security will be present for event and he will be serving the alcohol as he is TIPS certified.

Upon a 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 October 10, 2023.

- 2. City of Worcester & Greater Good Imperial Brewing Co, Worcester Common**
○ **Friday-December 1, 2023 – 4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

J.T. Ehtier, participating remotely, stated that he was approached by City to provide beer at the Festival of Lights Event. The city will provide the tents and there are portable bathrooms and Worcester Police will be present. TIPS certified bartenders from Greater Good will serve the beer.

Upon a 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 October 9, 2023.

- 3. Ecotarium, 222 Harrington Way**
○ **Wednesday-October 25, 2023 – 5:15 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

Kaitlin Williams, participating remotely, stated this is for an event at the Ecotarium and they will have certified bartenders for the event.

Upon a 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 October 11, 2023.

Common Victualer Requests

- 4. 7 Vibes Nutrition, 79 Millbury Street**
○ **Monday-Friday-7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Saturday-9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Sunday-Closed**

No one appeared for item, so staff reviewed application.

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 October 6, 2023.

- 5. Encanto Latino Restaurante, 704 Main Street**
○ **Sunday-Saturday – 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

Pedro Agreda appeared upon behalf of the application. Mr. Agreda stated that he will be opening a restaurant

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

List of Exhibits: Common victualer application received and dated October 6, 2023.

- 6. PRG Mart 786 Corporation dba 7- Eleven 37447B, 973 Main Street**
○ **24 hours/7 days a week**

Ahjad Chaudry, participating remotely, stated he is taking over the 7-Eleven location.

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

List of Exhibits: Common victualer application received and dated October 2, 2023.

Alcohol/Entertainment Requests

- 7. Mayoush Enterprises, LLC (Meraki), 274 Shrewsbury Street**

- Request for jukebox, tv, radio, live music, karaoke

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to postpone the application to the November 2, 2023 License Commission meeting.

- 8. Dream Catcher Farm Inc. dba Blackstone Herbs and Martini Bar, 102 Green Street**

- Request for one pool table

No one appeared for item.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the license for one pool table.

List of Exhibits: Application for pool table received and dated September 24, 2023.

- 9. Fat Chops, LLC, 225 Canterbury Street**

- Request for change of manager

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to postpone the application to the November 2, 2023 License Commission meeting.

- 10. New Tradition, LLC, 7 Jackson Street**

- Request for entertainment license for jukebox, tv, radio, recorded music, live music

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to postpone the application to the November 2, 2023 License Commission meeting.

11. 139 LLC, 139 Water Street

- Request for entertainment license for tv, radio, background music

Hadi Makhlouta appeared upon behalf of the application. He stated that he like to have entertainment at this location when he opens.

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

List of Exhibits: Application for entertainment license received and dated July 10, 2023.

12. Peppercorns Park Avenue Grille, 455 Park Avenue

- Request for alteration of premises for permanent outdoor dining
- Request for entertainment outside radio, record music, live music-permanently

Chair Vigliotti stated that the Commissioners had done a site view prior to the meeting.

Tom Oliveri appeared upon behalf of the application. He stated he is looking for permanent approval for outdoor seating from April through October.

Chair Vigliotti asked what the hours for the outside area would be. Mr. Oliveri stated, 11:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday to 11:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the permanent outdoor dining and request for entertainment.

List of Exhibits:

Exhibit A: Application for alteration of premise received and dated July 6, 2023

Exhibits B: Application for entertainment received and dated July 6, 2023.

13. K Liquor Corp. dba Mass Liquors, 392 Chandler Street

- Request for transfer of package store all alcohol license from Hademo Incorporated
- Pledge of license

Attorney John Mooradian, participating remotely, stated that they are looking to transfer the liquor license and do a pledge of the license.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the transfer of the package store all alcohol license and pledge of license.

List of Exhibits: Application for transfer of package store all alcohol license and pledge of license received and dated October 4, 2023.

14. Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 100 Institute Road, Campus Center

- Request for change of officers/directors

Attorney Tom Miller, participating remotely, stated that WPI is looking to do a change of officers/directors.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the change of officers/directors.

List of Exhibits: Application for change of officers/directors received and dated October 3, 2023.

15. Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 100 Institute Road, 00419

- Request for change of officers/directors/change of manager

Attorney Tom Miller, participating remotely, stated that WPI is looking to do a change of officers/directors and change of manager.

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

List of Exhibits: Application for change of officers/directors received and dated October 3, 2023.

Cessation of Business

16. Albino's Market, Inc. 92 Belmont Street

Staff stated that they spoke with license holder, and they requested to hold the license until January 1, 2024.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted to hold the item to January 1, 2024.

Other Business

17. Suspension Guidelines for Compliance Checks for Off Premises Licenses

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to adopt the Compliance Check Guidelines.

Violation Hearings

18. Beer Garden MA, LLC, 64-66 Franklin Street

- Violation of Rules #14, #30 (7 counts)

Joseph Donovan and Adam Peroco appeared to answer to the violation.

Sergeant Needham presented the following;

On September 8, 2023, Officer Patrick Harrington was assigned to the Alcohol Enforcement Unit when he was contacted by Detective Richard Boulette with regards to an ongoing investigation into an incident that may have occurred at the Beer Garden MA LLC.

Detective Boulette informed Officer Harrington that he had contacted the Beer Garden a week prior to obtain video surveillance and had not heard back and requested that Officer Harrington follow up.

At 7:40 p.m. on September 8, 2023, Officer Harrington went to the Beer Garden and spoke with the proposed manager, Marc Speroni, and explained the reason for his visit. Mr. Speroni stated that he recalled speaking with the police and forwarded everything to Adam Percoco. When asked why the Beer Garden had not replied for the request for the video surveillance, he was not aware.

Officer Harrington then requested Mr. Speroni provide documents and license for the business. The business license posted was expired from 2022.

Officer Harrington requested Mr. Speroni provide the crowd manager fire and building safety checklist which is required to be completed prior to opening for operation of daily business. Mr. Speroni escorted Officer Harrington to the rear office and turned over the business binder containing crowd manager documents which shall be kept on file for three years. Officer Harrington reviewed the checklist and noticed the last time completed was on September 1, 2023 with several blank pages after that. It should be noted that this establishment had been advised in the past years from Worcester Fire that this is a public safety issue and received citations for failing to comply.

After reviewing the documents, Officer Harrington contacted the director of the Beer Garden, Mr. Percoco, and advised him of the incident. Officer Harrington contacted Mr. Percoco directly as while he was at the Licensed Premises, he was advised that the proposed manager, Mr. Speroni, that he was resigning the following week.

Mr. Perocco stated that they have a new GM, and she has been very good with filling out crowd control.

Mr. Perocco stated that when they police asked for video of incident, he did not have access and the cameras were not working and it took two weeks to get them up and running and he provided the video once it was working.

Chair Vigliotti asked why the paperwork was not done. Mr. Perocco, Director of Operations, stated that the previous manager had neglected his duties after putting in his notice of resignation and the Beer Garden was normally on top of crowd safety.

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

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted to impose a seven-day suspension with three days served, November 3, 10, 17, 2023. The other four days will be held in abeyance for one year from date of hearing.

List of Exhibits: Police report dated September 22, 2023

Communications

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to adjourn the meeting at 10:47 a.m.