



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

Thursday, November 2, 2023

**Commissioners** Anthony Vigliotti, Chair

**Present:** Charran Fisher, Commissioner

Maritza Cruz, Commissioner

Commissioners

**Absent:** 

**Staff Present:** Alexandra Kalkounis, Law Department

Sergeant Thomas Needham, Worcester Police Department Officer Patrick Harrington, Worcester Police Department

Deborah Steele, Licensing

**Minutes:** October 19, 2023, October 25, 2023

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the minutes of October 19, 2023 and October 25, 2023.

#### **One Day Liquor & Entertainment Requests**

- 1. Illah Cribs, 218 Franklin Street
  - Request for one day liquor license
    - o Saturday-November 25, 2023-Noon-7:00 p.m.

Illah Cibis, participating remotely, stated that this is for a sip and shop event at her jewelry store, and she only expects 20-30 people during the event.

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

List of Exhibits: Application for one day liquor license received and dated October 18, 2023.

# 2. Odd by Worcester Brewing, Worcester Common

- Request for one day liquor license
  - o Friday- December 1, 2023-4:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Jay Grey appeared upon behalf of the application. He stated that he had been asked by the city to participate in the Festival of Lights. He stated that there will be security present for the event.

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 October 23, 2023.* 

# 3. Ecotarium, 222 Harrington Way

- Request for one day liquor license
  - Wednesday-November 8, 2023-6:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m.

Kaitlin Williams, participating remotely, stated that this is for event for the CASA group. They have rented the Ecotarium for an event and security will be present.

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 October 25, 2023.

# 4. BirchAlley, 19 Harrison Street –

- Request for one day liquor license
  - o Friday-November 4, 2023 10:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m.

No one appeared for the item. Staff reviewed the item.

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 October 25, 2023.

#### 5. Elizabeth Purdy, 910 Main Street

- Request for one day liquor license
  - o Friday-December 1, 2023 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.
  - Saturday-December 2, 2023 6:00 p.m. 10:00 p.m.
  - Sunday-December 3, 2023 4:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to allow for Leave to Withdraw for the application.

#### **Common Victualer Requests**

#### 4. Joe Cannolis Bakery, 1130 Pleasant Street

○ Monday-Sunday-6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Youssf Khalif appeared upon behalf of the 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 25, 2023.

# 5. Kenmore Diner, 250 Franklin Street

o Monday-Sunday-6:00 a.m. -2:00 p.m.

Christin Paddock, participating remotely, stated that she will be taking over this location and requesting a common victualer license.

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 25, 2023.

#### 6. Wingstop, 540 Southbridge Street

o Monday-Sunday-11:00 a.m. - Midnight

No on appeared on behalf of the application. Staff reviewed.

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 25, 2023.

## **Alcohol/Entertainment Requests**

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

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to postpone the application to the November 16, 2023 License Commission meeting.

## 9. Fat Chops, LLC, 225 Canterbury Street

Request for change of manager

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to postpone the application to the November 16, 2023 License Commission meeting.

#### 10. New Tradition, LLC, 7 Jackson Street

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

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to postpone the application to the November 16, 2023 License Commission meeting.

#### 13. Warsaw, Inc., 118 Green Street

o Request to open at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays

Julie Sargentelli, participating remotely, stated that they would like to start serving Sunday brunch so would like to open at 10:00 a.m.

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the request to open at 10:00 a.m.

List of Exhibits: Application to open at 10:00 a.m. received and dated October 23, 2023.

## 14. Los 3 Reyes Magos Sandwiches LLC dba 3 Kings Restaurant, 118 Cambridge Street-

- o Request for common victualer malt & wine license
- o Request for common victualer license

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to postpone the application to the November 16, 2023 License Commission meeting.

#### **Violation Hearings**

#### 15. Fat Chops LLC dba Fatchops Sportsbar, 225 Canterbury Street

o Violation of Rules #14, #28

John Brower and Clinton Wilson Jr appeared upon behalf of the application.

Mr. Brower waived his right to counsel.

Sergeant Needham presented the following;

October 20, 2023, Officer Pat Harrington, assigned to the Alcohol Enforcement Unit was in the area of Fatchops Sportsbar to conduct a compliance check.

Officer Harrington upon entering the Fatchops was approached by an on-duty bartender and Officer Harrington asked the bartender if he could speak the owner. The bartender began to portray herself as the manager when Officer Harrington asked again to speak with the owner. The bartender pointed to a male who Officer Harrington recognized as Clinton Wilson sitting in the corner of the Licensed Premises talking with another individual.

Mr. Wilson came over to speak with Officer Harrington and Officer Harrington explained he was there to conduct a compliance check and asked to review documents for the premises including purchase orders/invoices for alcohol and alcohol training certifications.

Upon examining the documents Officer Harrington noticed that Clinton Wilson name was on the paperwork.

Officer Harrington then asked the bartender for her alcohol training certificate, and she stated that it was at home and when Officer Harrington asked how long she had worked at Fatchops she stated three weeks and that that she had been hired by "Clinton", the owner. The bartender stated she would go to her home to retrieve the alcohol training certificate. A little while later Mr. Wilson received a text from the bartender who provided an expired server training certificate from September 2022.

Officer Harrington informed Mr. Wilson that due to the business not having any employees on premises to safely serve the public the business could not operate.

An attempt was made to contact John Brower, the owner of Fatchops, was unsuccessful.

Mr. Brower presented information of when the bartender was employed. Sergeant Needham stated that the bartender had been working for three weeks without certification. Mr. Brower stated that based on his reading of the rules that it within 30 days of person being hired.

Attorney Kalkounis stated that the rules require that someone on premises must have a server training certificate and asked if anyone that evening had a server training certificate. Mr. Brower stated no. Attorney Kalkounis stated that the fact no one on the premises had a sever training certificate and that was the biggest concern.

Officer Harrington stated that there was also no list of employees who were server trained at the premises. Mr. Brower stated that he keeps them electronically.

Chair Vigliotti asked if anyone the night Officer Harrington went to the premises was anyone server trained. Mr. Brower stated no.

Attorney Kalkounis stated that there was also a violation of Rule #14 which manager responsible for the premises.

Charran Fisher stated that it is obvious there are violations, and it is common practice industry to have server trained employees and as an owner Mr. Brower needs to look out for when he hiring that employee has the certifications required.

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

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to issue a four-day suspension, November 15, 16, 17, 18, 2023.

List of Exhibits: Police report dated October 24, 2023

#### **Other Business**

#### 16. Beer Garden MA, LLC, 64-66 Franklin Street

Discussion on suspension

Joseph Donovan, participating remotely, stated that the Beer Garden at the last License Commission meeting had received a suspension to be served in November but since that time they have decided to close for the season as they have had difficult year due to the weather and not economically feasible this year to remain open during the colder months.

Chair Vigliotti asked Mr. Donovan if they had remained opened last year, and Mr. Donovan stated yes, they had remained open through end of December.

The Commission members due to the financial difficulty and fact the establishment will be closed through spring decided to waive the imposed suspension.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to waive the three-day suspension imposed at the October 19, 2023 License Commission meeting.

## 17. Fat Chops LLC, dba Fatchops Sportsbar, 225 Canterbury Street-Status hearing

Attorney David Rubin John Brower and Clinton Wilson Jr appeared upon behalf of the status hearing.

Sergeant Needham and Officer Harrington stated that in June 2023 a Facebook post appeared stating that the premises had been taken over by new management and began to investigate. They found that the articles of organization had been change to Clinton Wilson and no paperwork had been filed with the License Commission office.

Mr. Wilson stated that the original attorney he had hired did not file the paperwork correctly which led to the problems, so he hired Attorney Rubin who has been working to file the transfer paperwork which was filed with License Commission Office last week but incomplete.

Attorney Rubin stated that application has been filed and it just waiting for the certificate of good standing from DOR which Mr. Brower stated that he has received but was on his cell phone and they will provide to the License Commission office later that day and then can start the process to correctly transfer the license to Mr. Wilson.

A discussion was held between the License Commission and Mr. Brower and Mr. Wilson as to who had been running the premises for the past few months and who oversees the day-to-day operations. Mr. Brower stated that he still is the manager of the premises but usually only there in the am as has childcare issues later in the day. The Commission expressed concern that Mr. Wilson was not there during the busier operating hours and that the paperwork had not been filed earlier to do the transfer.

#### **Communications**

None

#### Adjournment

Upon a motion the Commission voted 3-0 to adjourn the meeting at 11:52 a.m.