



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

Thursday June 13, 2024

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
Alexandra Kalkounis, Law Department
Deborah Steele, Licensing

Call to Order – 10:00 A.M.

Minutes: May 30, 2024

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the minutes of May 30, 2024.

Requests for Continuances, Extensions, Postponements, & Withdrawals

One Day Liquor & Entertainment Requests

- 1. Mexicali Cantina Grill-Taste of Shrewsbury Street, 225 Shrewsbury Street
Request for one day entertainment license outside**
 - o Tuesday-June 18, 2024 – 5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Hilda Ramirez, participating remotely, stated that she looking to have a DJ outside at the Taste of Shrewsbury Street event.

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

List of Exhibits: Application for one day entertainment license received and dated May 16, 2024.

- 2. Dollars for Scholars, 6 Institute Road
Request for one day entertainment license**

- **Saturday-June 15, 2024- 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.**

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

- 3. Worcester Center for Crafts, 25 Sagamore Road**
 - Request for one day liquor license**
 - Request for one day entertainment license for live music**
 - **Friday-July 19, 2024 – 4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

Candance Casey, participating remotely, stated that she is looking for a one-day liquor/entertainment license for their annual event and reviewed the security details for event.

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

List of Exhibits:

Exhibit A: Application for one day entertainment license received and dated May 24, 2024.

Exhibit B: Application for one day liquor license received and dated May 24, 2024.

- 4. Cyrille Vincent Ndomakette Samba, 25 Sagamore Road**
 - **Request for one day liquor license**
 - **Thursday, June 27, 2024-5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.**

Cyrille Vincent Ndomakette, participating remotely, stated that he would like to have alcohol at event at the Worcester Center for Crafts. The Commission and the applicant reviewed the proposed security and set up for 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 May 7, 2024.

- 5. Victoria Mariano, 26 Millbury Street**
 - **Request for one day liquor license**
 - **Request for one day entertainment license dancing by patrons, live music, amplification system dj**
 - **Saturday-September 7, 2024-6:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.**
 -

Victoria Mariano appeared upon behalf of the applications and the Commission, Sergeant Needham and Ms. Mariano reviewed the proposed event.

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

List of Exhibits:

Exhibit A: Application for one day liquor license received and dated May 24, 2024.

Exhibit B: Application for one day entertainment license received and dated May 24, 2024.

6. Saint Paul’s Cathedral, 38 High Street

- Request for one day liquor license
- Request for one day entertainment license for dancing by patrons, recorded music, amplification system, live music
 - Saturday-June 22, 2024-7:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
 - Saturday-June 29, 2024-1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Reverend Cano along with Edgar Luna appeared upon behalf of the applications.

Mr. Luna stated that these are for two events at the church and reviewed the security and set up for events. He stated that the church also had these events last year with no issues.

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

List of Exhibits:

Exhibit A: Application for one day liquor license received and dated May 29, 2024.

Exhibit B: Application for one day entertainment license received and dated May 29, 2024.

7. Paul Barber, 278 Shrewsbury Street

- Request for one day liquor license
- Request for one day entertainment license for radio, recorded music, live music, amplification system
 - Tuesday-June 18, 2024-5:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.
 - Friday-June 28, 2024 (rain date June 29, 2024) 5:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.
 - Sunday-October 6, 2024-Noon – 6:00 p.m.

Paul Barber appeared upon behalf of the applications and stated that June 18, 2024, is for the Taste of Shrewsbury Street, June 28, 2024 is for the fireworks and October 6, 2024 is for the parade.

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

List of Exhibits: Applications for one day liquor license received and dated June 7, 2024.

8. Basil N Spice, 299 Shrewsbury Street

- Request for one day liquor license
- Request for one day entertainment license for live music
 - Tuesday-June 18, 2024-5:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.

Batour Lachmann, participating remotely stated that she was looking for a one-day liquor and one day entertainment license for the Taste of Shrewsbury Street.

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

List of Exhibits:

Exhibit A: Application for one day liquor license received and dated May 31, 2024.

Exhibit B: Application for one day entertainment license received and dated May 31, 2024.

9. Stonewall Pride Block Party 2024, 218 Franklin/226 Franklin Street

- **Request for one day entertainment license for live music, dancing by entertainers, recorded music, face painting**
 - **Saturday-June 29, 2024**

Iliah Cibis appeared upon behalf of the application. She stated that she is looking to obtain a one-day entertainment license.

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

List of Exhibits: Application for one day entertainment license received and dated May 31, 2024.

10. Worcester Marine Corps League, 181 Lake Avenue

- **Request for one day entertainment license for live music outside**
 - **Sundays- 3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. until September 8, 2024**

Samuel Serafin, participating remotely, stated that they are looking to have outdoor music through the end of September.

Chair Vigliotti asked if members and guests only. Mr. Serafin stated yes.

Mr. Serafin stated that they have someone who checks the ids when they come into the establishment, and they check to make sure people who enter are members or a guest of the member.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the request for one month and then at the July 11, 2024, meeting come back for a status report on item.

List of Exhibits: Application for to amend entertainment license received and dated May 1, 2024.

11. Ararmark Harvest Table, 950 Main Street

- **Request for one day liquor license**
 - **Wednesday-June 26, 2024-11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**

Kim Looman McElroy, participating remotely, stated that they are looking to apply for a one-day license and reviewed the proposal and security.

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 May 25, 2024.

12. Fractaltribe Events, LLC, 97 Webster Street

- **Request for one day liquor license**

- **Request for one day entertainment license for dancing by patrons, live music, recorded music, amplification system, light show, projected visuals on stage**
 - **Friday, August 9, 2024-Noon-Midnight**
 - **Saturday, August 10, 2024-Noon-Midnight**
 - **Friday, September 6, 2024-Noon-Midnight**
 - **Saturday, September 7, 2024-Noon-Midnight**

Robert Lumbrá appeared upon behalf of the applications. Mr. Lumbrá stated that this will be for a festival at the location. He stated that they plan about 1,000 but probably only get 600-800. He stated that Electric Haze employees will be hired to handling catering as they have TIPS certified bartenders, and they will have a separate company to handle checking ID's and wristband will be used to define 21+.

Sergeant Needham asked where alcohol would come from. Mr. Lumbrá stated that will be handled by Electric Haze but it will be a distributor.

Sergeant Needham stated that he met with Mr. Lumbrá yesterday and viewed the property. The property is fenced in and bordered by railroad tracks and not a residential area.

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

List of Exhibits:

Exhibit A: Application for one day liquor licenses received and dated May 14, 2024.

Exhibit B: Application for one day entertainment licenses received and dated May 14, 2024.

13. Kenny T. Dang, 30 Anna Street

- **Request for one day liquor license**
- **Request for one day entertainment license for live music**
 - **Saturday, June 29, 2024- 7:00 p.m.-Midnight**

Kenny T. Dang, participating remotely stated that this is a request for a one-day request for event at the church and review the details of the proposal.

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

List of Exhibits:

Exhibit A: Application for one day liquor license received and dated June 6, 2024.

Exhibit B: Application for one day entertainment license received and dated June 6, 2024.

14. 67 Degrees Brewing, Eaton Place

- **Request for one day liquor license**

- Thursday, July 4, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
- Friday, July 5, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
- Saturday, July 6, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
- Sunday, July 7, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, July 11, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
- Friday, July 12, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
- Saturday, July 13, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
- Sunday-July 14, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, July 18, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
- Friday, July 19, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
- Saturday, July 20, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
- Sunday, July 21, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, July 25, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
- Friday, July 26, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
- Saturday, July 27, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
- Sunday, July 28, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, August 1, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
- Friday, August 2, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
- Saturday, August 3, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
- Sunday, August 4, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, August 8, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
- Friday, August 9, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
- Saturday, August 10, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
- Sunday, August 11, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, August 15, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
- Friday, August 16, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
- Saturday, August 17, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
- Sunday, August 18, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, August 22, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
- Friday, August 23, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.

14a. Arnold Cazeau, Eaton Place

- Request for one day liquor license
 - Saturday-August 24, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
 - Sunday-August 24, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.
 - Sunday-August 26, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
 - Friday, August 30, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
 - Saturday, August 31, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
 - Sunday, September 1, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.
 - Thursday, September 5, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
 - Friday, September 6, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.
 - Saturday, September 7, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.

- **Sunday, September 8, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.**
- **Thursday, September 12, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.**
- **Friday, September 13, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.**
- **Saturday, September 14, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.**
- **Sunday, September 15, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.**
- **Thursday, September 19, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.**
- **Friday, September 20, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.**
- **Saturday, September 21, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.**
- **Sunday, September 22, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.**
- **Thursday, September 26, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.**
- **Friday, September 27, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.**
- **Saturday, September 28, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.**
- **Thursday, October 3, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.**
- **Friday, October 4, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.**
- **Saturday, October 5, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.**
- **Sunday, October 6, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.**
- **Thursday, October 10, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.**
- **Friday, October 11, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.**
- **Saturday, October 12, 2024-Noon-9:30 p.m.**
- **Sunday, October 13, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.**

14b. The Cellar Beer Garden, Eaton Place

- **Request for one day entertainment license for live music**
 - **Thursday, July 4, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.**
 - **Friday, July 5, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.**
 - **Saturday, July 6, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.**
 - **Sunday, July 7, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.**
 - **Thursday, July 11, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**
 - **Friday, July 12, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.**
 - **Saturday, July 13, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.**
 - **Sunday-July 14, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.**
 - **Thursday, July 18, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**
 - **Friday, July 19, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.**
 - **Saturday, July 20, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.**
 - **Sunday, July 21, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.**
 - **Thursday, July 25, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**
 - **Friday, July 26, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.**
 - **Saturday, July 27, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.**
 - **Sunday, July 28, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.**
 - **Thursday, August 1, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**
 - **Friday, August 2, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.**
 - **Saturday, August 3, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.**
 - **Sunday, August 4, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.**

- Thursday, August 8, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
- Friday, August 9, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Saturday, August 10, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Sunday, August 11, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, August 15, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
- Friday, August 16, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Saturday, August 17, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Sunday, August 18, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, August 22, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
- Friday, August 23, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Saturday-August 24, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Sunday-August 24, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.
- Sunday-August 26, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
- Friday, August 30, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Saturday, August 31, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Sunday, September 1, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, September 5, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
- Friday, September 6, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Saturday, September 7, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Sunday, September 8, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, September 12, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
- Friday, September 13, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Saturday, September 14, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Sunday, September 15, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, September 19, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
- Friday, September 20, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Saturday, September 21, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Sunday, September 22, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, September 26, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
- Friday, September 27, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Saturday, September 28, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Thursday, October 3, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
- Friday, October 4, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Saturday, October 5, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Sunday, October 6, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, October 10, 2024-3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
- Friday, October 11, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Saturday, October 12, 2024-Noon-9:00 p.m.
- Sunday, October 13, 2024-Noon-4:00 p.m.

14, 14a, 14b were taken contemporaneously

Olivier Edward, participating remotely, stated that they are looking to have a beer garden at Eaton Place from July 1 through end of October. He stated that they plan to have some food trucks as well as

entertainment. The beer garden will be enclosed. Porta Potties will be rented, and security will be hired to check ID's and the beer garden is weather permitting so if it is raining, they will not operate.

Sergeant Needham asked how the beer garden would be delineated. Mr. Edward stated they will be using stanchion with one entrance and exit. Sergeant Needham stated that he would advise applicant to make sure that alcohol does not leave the designated area.

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

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

List of Exhibits:

Exhibit A: Application for one day liquor license received and dated June 4, 2024.

Exhibit B. Application for one day entertainment license received and dated June 4, 2024.

15. Wednesday on Water, Water Street

- **Request for one day entertainment license for dancing by patrons, live music, amplification system**
 - **Wednesday, July 17, 2024-5:00 p.m. – 11:0 p.m.**

Paul Giorigio, participating remotely, reviewed the event. He stated that is for entertainment only.

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

List of Exhibits: Application for one day entertainment license received and dated June 4, 2024.

Common Victualer Requests

16. Mochi Doh, LLC, Worcester Public Market, 160 Green Street

- **Monday-Closed, Tuesday-Closed, Wednesday-Sunday-11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

Toan Lam, participating remotely, stated he is opening new location at public market.

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 May 13, 2024.

17. Harvest Table Culinary Group-Jonas G's Café, 950 Main Street

- **Sunday-Saturday-8:00 a.m.-11:59 p.m.**

Robin Savory, participating remotely, stated that they are taking over the food services for this location.

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 May 31, 2024.

- 18. Harvest Table Culinary Group-Cougar Café**
○ **Sunday-Saturday-8:00 a.m.-11:50 p.m.**

Robin Savory, participating remotely, stated that they are taking over the food services for this location.

List of Exhibits: Application for common victualer license received and dated May 31, 2024.

Alcohol/Entertainment Requests

- 19. 3Cross Fermentation Cooperative dba Wooden Bar, 26 Cambridge Street**
○ **Request for change of hours**

David Howland stated that they will looking to amend the hours of the business in order to open at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the request for change of hours.

List of Exhibits: Application for change of hours received and dated May 30, 2024.

- 20. 508 Pizza LLC dba Uno Chicago Grill, 25 Major Blvd.**
○ **Request for change of manager**

Paul Marcelena, participating remotely, stated that this is for changer of manager at location.

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

List of Exhibits: Application for change of manager received and dated May 30, 2024.

- 21. Magnitude & Permanence Inc. dba Greater Good Imperial Brewing Company and Soul Purpose Brewing Company, 55 Millbrook Street**
○ **Request for On Premises Farmer Series Pouring Permit-Malt**

Attorney Mark Bornstein appeared upon behalf of the application and reviewed the proposal.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the Farmer Series Pouring Permit.

List of Exhibits: Application for On Premises Farmer Series Pouring Permit Malt received and dated May 24, 2024.

- 22. J.E. Mullaly's Package Store, Inc., 221 Webster Street**
○ **Request to transfer package store all alcohol license to Sai Kiran, Inc. dba One Stop Mini Market and transfer of location to 1406 Main Street**

Attorney Jon Aieta and the applicant appeared upon behalf of the application.

Chair Vigliotti stated that the Commissioners had viewed the premises prior to the meeting.

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

List of Exhibits: Application for transfer of package store all alcohol license and transfer of location received and dated May 21, 2024.

23. Beer Garden, MA, LLC, 64 Franklin Street

- **Request to transfer of restaurant all alcohol license to Cocktail Garden & Kitchen, LLC**
- **Request for common vicutaler license**
- **Request for entertainment license for tv, radio, dancing by patrons, dancing by entertainers, recorded music, live music, amplification system, paly, floor show, light show, theatrical exhibition, karaoke**

Elizabeth Pasano along with the applicants appeared upon behalf of the application. Ms. Pasano stated that they are taking over the location and concept will change, and they will only be opening later in the day and evenings.

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

Request to transfer of restaurant all alcohol license to Cocktail Garden & Kitchen, LLC

Request for common vicutaler license

Request for entertainment license for tv, radio, dancing by patrons, dancing by entertainers, recorded music, live music, amplification system, paly, floor show, light show, theatrical exhibition, karaoke

List of Exhibits:

Exhibit A: Application to transfer restaurant all alcohol license received and dated May 28, 2024.

Exhibit B: Application for common victualer license received and dated May 28, 2024.

Exhibit C: Application for entertainment license received and dated May 28, 2024.

Bottle Service

24. 961 Restaurant, LLC, 2 Washington Square

- **Request for bottle service**

Attorney Mark Bornstein along with Obaida Abdulky appeared upon behalf of the application. The Commissioners had viewed the site prior to the least meeting.

The Commissioners reviewed the proposal and discussion was held on the set up of tables.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to approve the bottle service with following conditions;
Bottle Service-60 people allowed 12 patrons per server, schematic at front desk for bottle service to be available.

List of Exhibits: Application for Bottle service received and dated May 24, 2024.

Status Hearings

25. Alysomyalma Inc dba Luna Pizzeria, 90 Madison Street

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to continue the item to the July 11, 2024, License Commission meeting.

26. Los 3 Reyes Magos, 118 Cambridge Street

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to continue the item to the July 11, 2024, License Commission meeting.

27. Worcester Wine/Spirits, 166 Lincoln Street

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to continue the item to the July 11, 2024, License Commission meeting.

28. Gateway Wine/Spirits, 37 Mechanic Street

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to continue the item to the July 11, 2024, License Commission meeting.

Violation Hearing

29. Lara Hookah Bar, Inc., 267 Lincoln Street Violation of Rules #6, #10, #14, #28

Sergeant Needham presented the following;

On April 11, 2024, members of Worcester Fire, Code & Alcohol Enforcement Units were conducting compliance checks at numerous businesses within the city.

At 8:30 p.m. Officer Pat Harrington from the Worcester Police Department along with members from the various units entered Lara Hookah Bar to observe the manner in which business was being conducted.

Upon arriving at Lara Hookah Bar, the team observed that the premises was open and operational to the public.

Once inside Lara Hookah Bar they were greeted by Ahmed Handhal, and they observed three individuals seated at a low top table and appeared to be consuming alcoholic beverages.

The investigators began to conduct a compliance check and went to the rear of the premises where the tobacco and alcohol were being stored.

The investigators observed several boxes containing various brands of spirits and after closer examination of the boxes revealed distributor packing slips affixed to the outside box indicating that they were Chieftain and J.J. Liquors package stores.

The contents of the five boxes were primarily all packaged with the same brand liquor. It was immediately apparent that this was not ordered and received to Lara Hookah Bar.

Officer Harrington requested Mr. Handhal to provide the business invoices for the liquor on premises and Mr. Handhal deferred this to his brother the manager, Saif Hanhdal, who was not on the premises and Officer Harrington was told that some of the invoices were with their accountant.

Officer Harrington explained that all liquor within the section 12 establishment is required to have proof via invoices that it was purchased through a distributor and need to be readily accessible.

During this conversation Ahmed Handhal made reference that the liquor was a gift including some alcohol was from his brother that closed a bar in the city.

As the investigators reviewed the premises, they observed in the main bar area additional two Jack Daniels 1.75 ml bottles behind the bar which are not readily available through a distributor.

Upon questioned as to where the bottles came from Ahmed Handhal could not give Officer Harrington a reasonable answer and again stated it was a gift.

Ahmed Handhal was the only employee within the premises and was asked to produce his server training certification and Mr. Handhal stated that he did not have this document and was new to the business and that the Lara Hookah Bar was not open at this time.

Officer Harrington asked about the patrons sitting at the low top table and Mr. Handhal stated that they were employees.

When Officer Harrington questioned the people at the table they denied being on duty and not being “on the books”. Officer Harrington asked then who served the alcohol drinks on the table and Mr. Ahmed Handhal stated the DJ served them.

Officer Harrington told Mr. Ahmed Handhal that he would be back the following day to retrieve all the alcohol invoices.

Officer Harrington returned to Lara Hookah Bar the following event and was informed by management that the invoices were still with their accountant.

On April 15, 2024, Officer Harrington returned to Lara Hookah Bar to review invoices pertaining to the alcohol which was believed to be purchased from a package store.

Of the invoices provided to Officer Harrington only two invoices were pertaining to Lara Hookah Bar and the remaining were from additional businesses that closed and not operational and upon closer review of the invoices, the seized bottles did not correspond with distributor invoices for Lara Hookah Bar.

It was also noted that a select few bottles were located behind the bar and remained on the premises that did not match a small order recently delivered to the business by the authorized distributor.

Saif Handhal along with Ahmed Handahl appeared to answer to the violation and waived their right to counsel.

Ahmed Handahl stated that he was on the premises when Officer Harrington came in and stated that the alcohol was from his brother who owned a bar that closed, and the boxes were never opened or used.

Ahmed Handhal stated that the two bottles were when someone had a private party and brought them in, and he took them away from them and forgot about them.

Ahmed Handahl stated that the next day when Officer Harrington came back, he showed him the invoices from his brother's closed business, and he showed the paperwork for the company they order from.

Chair Vigliotti asked if the liquor that was in the boxes was a gift and not from a distributor. Ahmed Handahl stated yes, was a gift from his brother.

Ahmed Handahl stated that he did not deny anything in the police report.

A letter was provided by the license holder stating the that violations did occur, and they have corrected the violations.

Chair Vigliotti stated it is the license holder's responsibility to know the rules and regulations.

Officer Harrington stated that the license holder did not appear to be very knowledgeable about the rules and regulations about running the premises, but they were cooperative with police during investigation.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission voted 3-0, finding a violation of Rules #6, #10, #14 and #28 occurred at the Licensed Premises on April 11, 2024.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to issue a seven (7) day suspension with four (4) to be suspended and three (3) days served.

List of Exhibits:

A. Police report dated May 25, 2024

B. Letter from Saif Handhal received electronically June 12, 2024.

Communications

Email Communication: Michael Sherwood – Opposition to Creed Bottle Service – Read into the record

Adjournment

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 3-0 to adjourn the meeting at 12:46 p.m.