



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

**Thursday, August 8, 2024**

**Commissioners Present:** Anthony Vigliotti, Chair  
Charran Fisher, Commissioner

**Commissioners Absent:** Maritza Cruz, Commissioner

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

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**Call to Order – 10:00 A.M.**

**Minutes: July 11, 2024**

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the minutes of July 11, 2024.

**Requests for Continuances, Extensions, Postponements, & Withdrawals**

**One Day Liquor & Entertainment Requests**

1. **Cordella’s Kava, LLC, 116B June Street**  
**Request for one day liquor license**
  - **Wednesday, August 28, 2024**
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Philip Jimision, participating remotely, stated that his location has a coffee shop, and they are having a one-day networking event and would like to serve some canned beer at the event. It would be 5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. and between 20-40 people at event and beer would be purchased from the Redemption Rock wholesale portion of their business.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the one-day liquor license.

*List of Exhibits: Application for one day liquor license received and dated July 24, 2024.*

2. **The Worcester Hibernian Cultural Foundation, 19 Temple Street**

**Request for one day liquor license  
Request for one day entertainment license for live music, dancing by entertainers  
(outside)**

- **Saturday, September 7, 2024**

Brendan Moran appeared upon behalf of the applications. He stated that this is for the annual road race and it will follow the same protocols as previous years. The hours will be 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

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 July 31, 2024.*

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

**3. You Belong Here Celebration, 3 Salem Square  
Request for entertainment license for dancing by patrons, dancing by entertainers,  
recorded music, live music, amplification system, light show**

- **October 5, 2024 (rain date October 26, 2024) 3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to postpone the application to the August 22, 2024, License Commission meeting.

**4. Brazilian Festival of Worcester, Institute Park  
Request for one day entertainment license for dancing by entertainers, live  
music, amplification system, bouncy house, kiddie train**

- **September 15, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.**

Suley DeBara, participating remotely, stating this is for their annual festival. There be music, kids' entertainment and food vendors. No alcohol at event. 2,000 people are expected, and they will have a police and fire detail.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the one-day entertainment license.

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

**5. CASA Project Worcester County, 446 Main Street  
Request for one day liquor license**

- **Thursday, September 12, 2024-5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**

Julie Bowditch, participating remotely, stated that this is the second year for the event, and they will be using Simply Delicious as caterer and about 200 people are expected and the staff of Simply Delicious is TIPS certified.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the one-day liquor license.

*List of Exhibits: Application for one day liquor license received and dated July 31, 2024.*

**6. Ecotarium, 222 Harrington Street**

**Request for one day liquor license**

- **Saturday-August 17, 2024-6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.**
- **Wednesday-September 18, 2024-5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**

Kaitlyn Williams, participating remotely, stated the August 17, 2024, event is a facility rental and the September 18, 2024, event is reunion event and they will have certified bartenders and gate staff as well as managers on site.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the one-day liquor licenses.

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

**Common Victualer Requests**

**7. La Baguette Worcester, LLC, 500 Pleasant Street**

**Sunday-7:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.**

**Monday-Saturday-7:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.**

Daniel Janet, participating remotely, stated that currently there is restaurant at location, and they will replace with a bakery.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the common victualer license.

*List of Exhibits: Application for common victualer license received and dated July 24, 2024.*

**8. Dave's Hot Chicken, 41 Park Avenue**

**Sunday-Wednesday-11:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.**

**Thursday, Friday, Saturday-11:00 a.m.-Midnight**

Johnny Defstani appeared upon behalf of the application. He stated that this will be a chicken restaurant with no alcohol involved.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the common victualer license.

*List of Exhibits: Application for common victualer license received and dated August 1, 2024.*

**9. Pikanadas, 226 Chandler Street**

**Sunday-Thursday-8:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m.**

**Friday-8:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.**

**Saturday-8:00 p.m.-2:00 a.m.**

Juan Castillo appeared upon behalf of the application. He stated that he and his wife would like to open a restaurant.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the common victualer license.

*List of Exhibits: Application for common victualer license received and dated August 2, 2024.*

## Alcohol/Entertainment Requests

### **10. Sazon Bar and Grill Inc dba Sazon Bar and Grill, 795 Main Street**

- **Request for change of hours to 10:00 a.m.-1:00 a.m. Sunday-Saturday**

Pedro LaCruz appeared upon behalf of the application and stated he would like to change of hours.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the change of hours.

*List of Exhibits: Application for change of hours received and dated July 23, 2024.*

### **11. Sai Kiran, Inc. dba One Stop Mini Market, 1406 Main Street**

- **Request for pledge of license**

Attorney Jon DeAita, participating remotely stating that they are looking to pledge the license.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the pledge of license.

*List of Exhibits: Application for pledge of license received and dated July 13, 2024.*

### **12. Trustees of Clark University, 950 Main Street**

- **Request for general on premises all alcohol license**
- **Request for approval of management operating agreement**
- **Request for entertainment license for tv, radio, dancing by patrons, recorded music, live music, amplification system, moving picture show, light show, theatrical exhibition, karaoke**

Chair Vigliotti stated that the Commissioner did a view of the premises prior to the meeting.

Attorney Mark Bornstein, participating remotely, stated that the University is looking for a new license for the Higgins University Center and there will be three areas in the building which will be main area for service.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the general on premises all alcohol license, approval of management operating agreement and entertainment license.

*List of Exhibits:*

*Exhibit A: Application for general on premises all alcohol license received and dated July 24, 2024.*

*Exhibit B: Application for approval of management operating agreement received and dated July 24, 2024.*

*Exhibit C: Application for entertainment license received and dated July 24, 2024.*

### **13. KGDAS Corporation dba HP Market, 256 Webster Street**

- **Request for package store malt & wine**

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

Chair Vigliotti stated that there is an existing package store in the area, but they are going to be moving.

Arun Modh appeared upon behalf of the application.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

John D’Agostino spoke in support of the application.

Dee McGinley, participating remotely, and had provided a letter of opposition and spoke in opposition to the application expressing concern for illegal activity and doesn’t believe a package store is a positive addition to the neighborhood as it is primarily residential.

Commissioner Fisher stated that she felt wouldn’t make much of a difference as there was a package store already there.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the package store malt & wine license.

*List of Exhibits: Application for package store malt & wine license received and dated July 16, 2024.*

**Other Business**

**14. 961 Restaurants, LLC, 2 Washington Square-Union Station  
Request to amend hours**

	<b>Existing</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. 1:00 a.m.</b>	<b>No change</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. 1:00 a.m.</b>	<b>No change</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. 1:00 a.m.</b>	<b>No change</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. 1:00 a.m.</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. – 2:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. 2:00 a.m.</b>	<b>No change</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. 2:00 a.m.</b>	<b>No change</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11:00 a.m. 2:00 a.m.</b>	<b>No change</b>

Obaida Abdulky appeared upon behalf of the request and stated that he was just looking to change the hours on Thursday.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to approve the amended hours.

*List of Exhibits: Application to change hours received and dated August 1, 2024.*

**Status Hearing**

**15. Wicked Good Event Group LLC dba Grill on the Hill, 1929 Skyline Drive**

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to postpone to August 22, 2024, License Commission meeting.

**16. Mackao Restaurant & Bar, 181 Millbury Street**

Maria Paulino along with Mr. Hernandez and Attorney Ken Philips appeared upon behalf of the item. Mr. Philips stated that he had submitted another revised application for Board's consideration. Ms. Steele stated that application had been received at 9:45 a.m. this am so she has had not time to review as was attending this meeting.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to continue the item until complete application filed.

### **Violation Hearing**

#### **17. Dirt McGirt's LLC, 1051 Main Street Violations of Rules #1, #14**

Stacey Blanchette appeared to answer to the violation and waived her right to counsel.

Sgt. Needham presented the following;

On June 22, 2024, Officer Patrick Harrington from the Worcester Police Department Alcohol Enforcement Unit was conducting checks at various licensed liquor establishments for compliance with the 2:00 a.m. closing time.

At 1:55 a.m. Officer Harrington observed numerous people within Dirt McGirt's and parked his vehicle near the establishment to monitor for compliance with 2:00 a.m. closing.

After 2:00 a.m. Officer Harrington observed several people entering and exiting Dirt McGirt's including someone being handed a plastic cup containing an unknown liquid inside. As he continued to monitor through the side window several people continue to play pool uninterrupted.

At approximately 2:15 a.m. Officer Harrington approached the front door of the licensed liquor establishment, and the door was locked. Upon knocking and showing his badge he was let in.

Officer Harrington went to the people playing pool and asked if they were employees and they informed him they were not. Officer Harrington informed them they needed to leave.

Upon returning to the main bar area Officer Harrington spoke with another female and inquired if she was an employee. The female initially informed me she was, and the bartender explained she was not.

Officer Harrington spoke with two additional males and inquired if they were employees. The males explained that they were related to the bartender and just helping out. All parties who were not employees were asked to exit the establishment.

Officer Harrington spoke with the bartender, Jennifer Bubon and explained the violations. Ms. Bubon was respectful and understood the issues.

Officer Harrington noted that Ms. Bubon was only person on duty that evening and there was a large crowd and advised her that the establishment may want to possibly hire an additional person to monitor I.D.'s and the main door.

Ms. Blanchette stated that she apologizes to the Commission is this is not how Dirt McGirt's operates and not how she trains her staff and was a poor judgement on staff's part but she takes full responsibility. Since the incident she has scaled back last call to 1:15 a.m. with everyone leaving a 1:45 a.m. and has added security both Friday and Saturday nights. Ms. Blanchette stated that she been a license holder about 9 years and never has had a violation and this will not happen again.

Chair Vigliotti stated that there are no violations on record but violation did occur that night.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 that violation did occur.

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to issue a Warning.

*List of Exhibits: Police report dated July 10, 2024.*

### **Communications**

**ABCC Notice of suspension-Jay Sedhima dba Gibbons Liquors-No comment.**

### **Adjournment**

Upon a roll call vote the Commission voted 2-0 to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 a.m.