

**CITY OF STEVENS POINT
PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE
Monday, January 12, 2015 – 6:59 P.M.
Lincoln Center – 1519 Water Street**

Present: Alderpersons: Slowinski, Wiza, Trzebiatowski, Doxtator

Excused: Alderperson M. Stroik

Also

Present: Mayor Wescott; City Attorney Beveridge; Clerk Moe; Comptroller/Treasurer Ladick; Alderpersons Walther, O'Meara, Patton, R. Stroik, Phillips and Moore; Directors Schrader, Lemke, Ostrowski and Schatschneider; Chief Finn; Chief Ruder; Asst. Chief Skibba; Tricia Church; Barb Jacob; Cathy Dugan; Lloyd Graff; Shaun Morrow; Elise Worthel; Bob Larson; Nate Enwall – Gazette; Brandi Makuski – City Times; Sari Lesk – Journal; Mykayla Hilgart – The Pointer

1. License List:

A. New Operator's (Bartender's) Licenses.

B. Temporary Class "B" / "Class B" License (Picnic) – St. Joseph Parish, 1709 Wyatt Avenue, Stevens Point for Winterfest on Friday, February 13, 2015 at 1709 Wyatt Avenue. Licensed operator on the premise: Dave Hansen. (Beer only)

C. Change of Agent – Apple Hospitality Group LLC, 2120 Pewaukee Road Suite 200, Waukesha, WI 53188, Adam J. Schroeder, 2001 East Becker Road, Marshfield WI; agent at Applebee's Neighborhood Grill and Bar, 5609 Hwy 10 East replacing Theron Johnson.

D. Pawnbroker License (Renewal) – Grubba Jewelers, 949 Main Street, Stevens Point, Charles and Mark Grubba, owners.

Ald. Trzebiatowski **moved**, Ald. Wiza seconded, approval of the new operator's licenses, Temporary Class "B" / "Class B" License for St. Joseph Parish, 1709 Wyatt Avenue, Stevens Point for Winterfest on Friday, February 13, 2015 at 1709 Wyatt Avenue with licensed operator on the premise being Dave Hansen, Change of Agent for Apple Hospitality Group LLC, 2120 Pewaukee Road Suite 200, Waukesha, WI 53188, Adam J. Schroeder, 2001 East Becker Road, Marshfield WI; agent at Applebee's Neighborhood Grill and Bar, 5609 Hwy 10 East replacing Theron Johnson, and Pawnbroker License for Grubba Jewelers, 949 Main Street, Stevens Point, Charles and Mark Grubba, owners.

Asst. Chief Skibba stated the Police Department follows the guidelines set by the Council for new operator licenses and they have had good working relations with Grubba Jewelers.

Call for the vote: Ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

2. Request to Hold Event /Street Closings – Point Bock Run Inc. – 2015 Point Bock Run, Saturday, March 7, 2015. Requesting the partial closure of Water Street and West River Drive and parking restrictions.

Asst. Chief Skibba stated this is an annual event and the Police Department does not have any issues with this request.

Ald. Wiza **moved**, Ald. Doxtator seconded, approval of the street closings and parking restrictions.

Call for the vote: Ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

3. Ordinance Amendment – Provide citation authority to the Comptroller/Treasurer.

City Attorney Beveridge said this authority would be limited to citations relating to items coming through the Treasurer's office.

Ald. Wiza asked since the Treasurer's office issues dog licenses, would he be issuing citations for unlicensed pets.

City Attorney Beveridge stated he is not certain that would fall within this authority.

Ald. Doxtator **moved**, Ald. Slowinski seconded, to approve the citation authority to the Comptroller/Treasurer.

Call for the vote: Ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

4. Ordinance Amendment – Citizens right to address the Common Council.

Ald. Wiza stated it is important to protect the citizens' rights to address the Council and speak on issues. He stated that under the last administration there were times when public comment was not allowed.

Ald. Wiza **moved**, Ald. Doxtator seconded, to approve the ordinance as presented.

City Attorney Beveridge briefly reviewed the wording of the ordinance.

Ald. Trzebiatowski said he assumes this would not apply to closed session issues.

City Attorney Beveridge said closed session items are not action items. He said if an open session action item follows a closed session, that is when public input would be taken.

Ald. Moore commended the City Clerk Moe for taking the initiative to bring this amendment forward to make sure that the deficiency in the ordinance was corrected.

Cathy Dugan, 615 Sommers Street, said this is a long time coming. She said the City had some bad experiences in the last seven years or so where arbitrary and dictatorial decisions were made about when and if the public could speak. Ms. Dugan said she hopes this amendment will encourage more people to come out. People were intimidated before. She thanked the City Clerk Moe and Mayor Wescott for bringing this forward.

Mayor Wescott said that when City Clerk Moe approached him about this ordinance amendment, he was surprised to hear that citizens were not always permitted to speak on agenda items. He said he was surprised because he thought it was something the City always did. He said for the twelve years he was Mayor, citizens were allowed to speak. The Mayor stated he is in support of this ordinance amendment. He commended the City Clerk and City Attorney who worked hard to put this together.

Ald. Trzebiatowski agrees with the section that allows for a speaker to have an interpreter if required and they would be given extra time. He believes the ordinance amendment is a good step to get more public involvement.

Ald. O'Meara said he would like paragraph 3, which relates to reducing time to speak to accommodate the numbers of speakers, to be more specific.

Clerk Moe said it was left a little vague so it would not limit Presiding Officers as it is difficult to know all the situations that could arise. He said the Presiding Officer along with the body would be the best judges as to how to handle the situations that arise specifically to that group.

Mayor Wescott said in the past, this has been handled depending on the situation and the number of people wishing to speak.

Ald. O'Meara suggested adding "if there are a large number of people or other specific situation" would not take away the forbearance of the Chair. It would get the idea out there that the reason the time may be cut is because there are many people who want to speak.

Ald. Wiza noted section 3 of the amendment already includes a sentence that implies time may be reduced to accommodate the number of speakers.

City Attorney Beveridge said it is essential to include a provision stating failure to abide by this subsection should not invalidate any actions. He said he will work on the wording for this and provide it before the Council meeting.

Ald. Wiza asked if the proper procedure would be to approve the ordinance as presented and vote on the amended ordinance at the Council meeting.

City Attorney Beveridge stated that is correct.

Call for the vote: Ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

5. Monthly Inspection Report.

Ald. Trzebiatowski questioned why the City had more development and increased the total valuation but only collected half the amount on fees.

Director Ostrowski said it depends on the project, remodels require a greater amount for fees than new construction. He said the large project for this year was Skyward which was new construction.

Ald. Wiza **moved**, Ald. Doxtator seconded, to accept the report and place it on file.

Call for the vote: Ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

6. Adjournment.

Adjournment at 7:21 p.m.