

**CITY OF STEVENS POINT
PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE
Monday, August 10, 2015 – 6:11 P.M.
Lincoln Center – 1519 Water Street**

Present: Alderpersons: Doxtator, Mrozek, Ryan, Van Stippen

Excused: Alderperson Morrow

Also

Present: Mayor Wiza; City Attorney Beveridge; Comptroller/Treasurer Ladick; City Clerk Moe; Alderpersons Oberstadt, Slowinski, Kneebone, Patton, McComb and Phillips; Director Schatschneider; Police Sgt. Piotrowski; Jo Seiser; Barb Jacob; Joe Fox; Vincent Houle; Christian and Leah Czerwonka; Ben Kollock; Nate Enwald – Gazette; Brandi Makuski – City Times

1. License List:

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

B. Temporary Class "B" / "Class B" License (Picnic):

- i. Boy Scout Troop #298, 838 Fremont Street, Stevens Point, for Boy Scout Troop 298 FundRacer on October 1, 2015 at the Piffner Building. Licensed operator on the premise: Ronald Tippel Jr. (Beer only)**
- ii. Arts Alliance of Portage County, 945A Main Street #3, Stevens Point, for Alley Party on September 11, 2015 at Downtown Plaza. Licensed operator on the premise: Julia Nummelin. (Beer only)**
- iii. Arts Alliance of Portage County, 945A Main Street #3, Stevens Point, for Trivia Unplugged on September 26, 2015 at Noel Hangar. Licensed operator on premise: Julia Nummelin. (Beer and Wine)**

Sgt. Piotrowski said the Police Department does not have any issues with these requests.

Julia Nummelin, Arts Alliance of Portage County, would like to remove serving wine at the Trivia Unplugged event and add wine to the Alley Party.

Clerk Moe stated the serving of wine can be eliminated from the Trivia Unplugged event; however, we cannot add serving wine at the Alley Party. He said you can subtract items that have been applied for but in order to get a license it has to be on file for 15 days. The Clerk said a motion to approve the two events is needed and then the Arts Alliance of Portage County will need to come back and apply for the wine license for the Alley Party. He said the wine license will need to be handled administratively since there will not be a Council meeting before the event takes place.

Ald. Van Stippen **moved**, Ald. Ryan seconded, to approve the new operator's licenses and temporary Class "B" / "Class B" licenses for the three organizations with the exclusion of wine for the Arts Alliance event on September 26, 2015.

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

- C. Change of Agent – Kwik Trip Inc., 1626 Oak Street, La Crosse, WI, Katie J. Sedall, 424 Second Street N, Stevens Point, WI; agent at Kwik Trip #863, 5311 Old Hwy 18 replacing Jesica Pacyna.**

Ald. Ryan **moved**, Ald. Mrozek seconded, to approve item 1.C. – Change of agent for Kwik Trip.

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

- D. Reserve “Class B” Combination Beer & Liquor License – El Jefe Corporation, 3280 Thompson Ct, Stevens Point, WI at El Jefe Tacos y Tequila, 924 Clark Street, Stevens Point, WI; Christian Czerwonka, agent.**

Leah Czerwonka, 3280 Thompson Ct., said they are looking to operate an authentic Mexican restaurant at 924 Clark Street. She said the restaurant would be open Tuesday through Saturday and it would not be open late at night.

Sgt. Piotrowski said the Police Department does not have any issues with this request.

Ald. Ryan **moved**, Ald. Mrozek seconded, to approve item 1.D. – Reserve “Class B” Combination Beer and Liquor license for El Jefe Corporation.

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

2. Request to Hold Event/Street Closings:

- A. Association of Downtown Businesses – Annual Fall Festival on September 19, 2015. Requesting the closure of the Downtown Square and a section of Main Street.**
- B. Old Main Neighborhood Association – Block Party on September 20, 2015. Requesting closure of a section of the 1800 block of Briggs Street.**

Sgt. Piotrowski said these events have taken place in the past without any issues.

Ald. Doxtator said the Police Department is recommending approval of the events and street closings with the condition that two contractual officers are hired to work at the Association of Downtown Businesses event.

Ald. Mrozek **moved**, Ald. Ryan seconded, to approve of the events and street closings.

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

3. Ordinance Amendment – Amend deposit amount for possession of marijuana (Section 24.52(4)(a) of the RMC).

City Attorney Beveridge said this is a request from an alderperson to change the amount of forfeiture for possession of marijuana. He noted the amount that appears in the ordinance is not the total amount due because it does not include the court costs.

The City Attorney said if the amount is changed to \$100.00, the total amount due would be \$187.00 and that would put it in line with a first offense underage drinking violation.

Ald. Kneebone said all the newly elected alderpersons received a request from a citizen requesting this change so she decided to bring it forward to the Committee.

Ald. Doxtator stated the City is not legalizing marijuana in any way.

Ald. Mrozek noted the Committee is only changing the dollar amount due.

Jo Seiser, 317 Sixth Avenue, supports reducing the fine amount.

Ald. Phillips disagrees with the request. He said fines should not be decreased.

Ald. Patton said lowering the fine gives the impression that it is alright. He said we do not know where these drugs are coming from and it will bring more drugs into the area.

Ben Kollock, 1372 North Second Drive, said he supports this request. He said research shows that decriminalizing drugs reduces drug use. Mr. Kollock suggested reducing the fine amount to \$50.00.

Ald. Mrozek asked what age group this will affect the most.

City Attorney Beveridge said the municipal court has only been established for a short period of time and the City did not have this on the books until last fall.

Ald. Mrozek asked if there is anything historically when it was held in circuit court.

City Attorney Beveridge replied no, they were not prosecuted by his office.

Ald. Mrozek asked if any programs are offered to these offenders to help set them on the right path.

City Attorney Beveridge stated there are programs for OWI convictions and underage drinking violations to avoid suspension of their driver's license. He noted there is also an online course associated with marijuana ordinance violations.

Ald. Mrozek asked if these programs are usually offered to first offenders.

City Attorney Beveridge replied yes.

Ald. Mrozek **moved**, Ald. Van Stippen seconded, to approve the ordinance amendment.

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

4. Monthly Inspection Report.

Mayor Wiza noted the City is in the process of hiring an Ordinance Control Officer. He said if anyone has concerns on ordinance violations, they can call City Hall or the ordinances are available online at stevenspoint.com.

Ald. Van Stippen **moved**, Ald. Ryan seconded, to approve the report and place it on file.

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

5. Adjournment.

Adjournment at 6:38 p.m.