

City of Stevens Point Meeting Minutes

Public Protection Committee

Monday, June 8, 2009, 7:50 p.m.

Lincoln Center, 1519 Water St.

Present: Alderpersons Stroik, Slowinski, Brooks.

Excused: Alderpersons Trzebiatowski, Wiza.

Also Present: Clerk Moe; C/T Schlice; Alderpersons: Mallison, Walther, O'Meara, and Moiski; Directors Gardner, Schrader, Halverson; Chief Ruder; Assessor Siebers; Kelley Pazdernik; Jason Pierce; Jacob Peterson; Ken Butterfield; Michele Bjella; Heidi Cole; Brenda La Barge; Holly Plaza; Meredith Thorn (Journal); Gene Kemmeter (Gazette).

Index of these Minutes:

1. Discussion and Possible Action on the Recommendations on the License List: A. New and Renewal Operator's (Bartender's) Licenses. B. Recommended Rejections. C. "Class B" Beer and Liquor Application - Brick Hause Entertainment, LLC, 1343 Second Street (formerly Butter's Brick Hause Tavern - Kenneth Butterfield). D. Special Class "B" / "Class B" Retailer Licenses: 1. Humane Society of Portage County, 3200 Iber Lane, Plover, WI for the Pawty in the Park on June 21, 2009 at Pfiffner Pioneer Park (Pfiffner building and tent). Scott Gulan, licensed operator on the premises. 2. Portage County Tavern League, PO Box 69, Amherst, WI for the Sabor Latino Festival on June 27, 2009 at the Noel Hangar, 4501 Hwy. 66, Stevens Point, WI. Juan Hernandez, licensed operator on the premises.

2. Request to Hold Event - Farm Shed requests to hold a "Buy Local" event at the Farmer's Market on July 17, 2009.

3. Discussion and Possible Action on the Monthly Inspection Report: A. Construction Starts. B. Violations.

4. Adjournment.

1. Discussion and Possible Action on the Recommendations on the License List:

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

Ald. Brooks moved, Ald. Slowinski seconded, approval of the 25 New Operator's and 27 Renewal Operator's Licenses.

Ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

B. Recommended Rejections.

Chief Ruder stated that the Police Department is recommending denial because Ms. Cole was convicted of driving under the influence in January 2009 so she does not meet the conditions set by the Council to hold a license.

Heidi Cole stated that she has been bartending for three years and has never received a citation during that time. She said this is her only offense and that it is her only income. She presented letters of recommendation from Robert Miller, who is her Substance Abuse Counselor, and Perry Ackeret, IDP Assessor, Portage County Health Department.

Chief Ruder noted that this is a similar issue. The Police Department is recommending denial for Ms. La Barge for the reason that she was convicted of an OWI in March 2009 and therefore does not meet the conditions to hold a license.

Brenda La Barge said that she is a single mother with two children. This is all that she has done her whole life and she has no other source of income. She has tried to find other employment but has been unsuccessful. She is willing to be placed on probation, or day reporting, in order to keep her job.

Ald. Stroik asked if she was aware of the conditions set to hold a license.

Ms. La Barge stated that she was not aware until she went to fill out the renewal.

Holly Plaza, Ms. La Barge's employer, noted that Ms. La Barge is a very good employee who realizes that she made a mistake and is paying the consequences. She asked that she be allowed to get her license.

Ald. Stroik asked for clarification regarding holding a license and being able to work as a bartender.

Clerk Moe stated that as long as there is a licensed bartender on premise that can see and hear the activities of the bar others can work as bartenders who are not licensed.

Ald. Stroik noted that the conditions for a license are listed on the application.

Chief Ruder replied that is correct. The applicants need to read the conditions and initial each one noting that they understand the requirements to obtain a license.

Ms. Cole stated that she is the only full time bartender and often the only one working and closing the bar.

Ald. Stroik asked if she was aware of the requirements to hold a license.

Ms. Cole stated that she was aware.

Ald. Stroik said that the City has guidelines in place for a reason. He has no doubt that these women are very hard workers in their own right but they have the ultimate responsibility and accountability for preventing OWIs. In his opinion they had lapses in judgment and if their employers wish to keep them on that is a private matter.

Ald. Stroik moved, Ald. Slowinski seconded, recommend rejection of both licenses for these two individuals.

Ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

C. "Class B" Beer and Liquor Application - Brick Hause Entertainment, LLC, 1343 Second Street (formerly Butter's Brick Hause Tavern - Kenneth Butterfield).

D. Special Class "B" / "Class B" Retailer Licenses:

1. Humane Society of Portage County, 3200 Iber Lane, Plover, WI for the Pawty in the Park on June 21, 2009 at Pfiffner Pioneer Park (Pfiffner

building and tent). Scott Gulan, licensed operator on the premises.

2. Portage County Tavern League, PO Box 69, Amherst, WI for the Sabor Latino Festival on June 27, 2009 at the Noel Hangar, 4501 Hwy. 66, Stevens Point, WI. Juan Hernandez, licensed operator on the premises.

Ald. Slowinski moved, Ald. Stroik seconded, to approve the "Class B" Beer and Liquor Application - Brick House Entertainment, LLC, and the Special Class "B" / "Class B" Retailer Licenses for the Humane Society of Portage County for the Pawty in the Park on June 21, 2009 and the Portage County Tavern League for the Sabor Latino Festival on June 27, 2009.

Ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

2. Request to Hold Event - Farm Shed requests to hold a "Buy Local" event at the Farmer's Market on July 17, 2009.

Michele Bjella, from Farm Shed, reviewed the request.

Ald. Stroik moved, Ald. Brooks seconded, to approve the request contingent that they work with the Police Department, Farmers Market group, and the County Health Department.

Ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

3. Discussion and Possible Action on the Monthly Inspection Report:

A. Construction Starts.

B. Violations.

Mayor Halverson noted that the \$1.4 million construction permit pulled for a new commercial building is a direct offshoot of the Travel Guard development. He congratulated the Council for pushing the Travel Guard complex.

Ald. Brooks moved, Ald. Slowinski seconded, to approve the Monthly Inspection Report and place it on file.

Ayes, all; nays, none; motion carried.

4. Adjourned at 8:07 P.M.

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