

Meeting Minutes

PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Monday, July 14, 2003 - 6:00 P. M.

City Water Department - 300 Bliss Avenue Present: Chairman Phillips, Alderpersons Sevenich (arrived at 6:05 P.M.), Seiser, Sowieja, Stroik
Also Present: Mayor Wescott, Comptroller-Treasurer Schlice, Clerk Zdroik, Directors Disher, Gardner, Schrader; City Surveyor Hild, Alderpersons
Walther, Barr, Rackow, Molski, Moore; Fire Chief Barnes, Police Captain Dowling, Street Superintendent Krieski, Fleet Maintenance Supervisor
Laidlaw, Mayoral Assistant Gebert, Kate Garsombke (Journal), Gene Kemmeter (Portage County Gazette)

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1. Recommendation on License list.
 - A. New and Renewal Operator's (Bartender's) Licenses.
 - B. Manager's License (Alcohol Beverages).
 - C. Recommended rejection:
 - (1) Aaron James Wetzel
 - D. Temporary Class "B"/"Class B" Retailer's License:
 - (1) Portage County Democratic Party Picnic at Bukolt Lodge, on Sunday, August 24, 2003.
 - (2) St. Stanislaus Holy Name Society, at Bukolt Park Lodge, on Tuesday, August 12, 2003, from 10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.
 - E. Transfer of "Class B" Beer and Liquor License - Big Todd's Rumble Inn, 1109 Park Street, Stevens Point, WI, Richard Todd Barden, agent, effective July 22, 2003, previously issued to Backstreet Pub, Arlen L. Kluck, agent.
 - F. Application for a Class "A" Beer License - Schierl Sales Corporation at 708 Division Street, Stevens Point, WI, Douglas Curwen, agent.
2. Request for a one-day extension for liquor premises:
 - A. Hilltop Pub & Grill Restaurant - Monday, August 4, 2003, 20th Anniversary Celebration.
 - B. Partner's Pub - Saturday, October 11, 2003, UW-SP Homecoming.
 - C. Bruiser's - Saturday, August 2, 2003, free concert and corn roast at the Farmers Market Square.
3. Request to hold a free concert and corn roast on Saturday, August 2, 2003, to be located at the "Farmers Market Square" bordered by the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Building to the west, Main Street to the north and Second Street to the east.
4. Request to hold group yard sale on Saturday, August 2, 2003, on the corner of Strongs Avenue and Main Street, sponsored by the Concerned Citizens of Stevens Point.
5. Request to keep Racing Homing Pigeons - 2325 Wyatt Avenue.
6. Request to close a portion of Pine Street between Wisconsin Street and Brawley Street on Saturday, August 2, 2003, for a summer block party.
7. Recommendation on Inspection Report.
8. Adjournment.

1. Recommendation on License list.
 - A. New and Renewal Operator's (Bartender's) Licenses.
 - B. Manager's License (Alcohol Beverages)
- Ald. Sowieja moved, Ald. Seiser seconded, to approve the New and Renewal Operator's (Bartender's) license list, the Supplemental New and Renewal Operator's (Bartender's) license list, and the Manager's License.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

- C. Recommended rejection:
 - (1) Aaron James Wetzel
- Mr. Wetzel was informed of the meeting but did not appear.

Ald. Stroik moved, Ald. Sowieja seconded, to deny the Operator's (Bartender's) license application of Aaron James Wetzel.

Ald. Seiser noted that if Mr. Wetzel had listed his OWI conviction, his application would have been approved because the guidelines state that the applicant has not had an OWI conviction within the past 6 months. Mr. Wetzel's conviction is almost a year. Ald. Seiser said that she is against denying Mr. Wetzel's license application.

Ayes: Chairman Phillips, Ald. Sowieja, Stroik.

Nays: Ald. Seiser. Motion carried.

- D. Temporary Class "B"/"Class B" Retailer's License:
 - (1) Portage County Democratic Party Picnic at Pfiffner Pioneer Park, on Sunday, August 24, 2003.
 - (2) St. Stanislaus Holy Name Society, at Bukolt Park Lodge, on Tuesday, August 12, 2003, from 10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.
- Ald. Sevenich moved, Ald. Seiser seconded, for approval of the Temporary Class "B"/"Class B" Retailer's License as outlined above.

E. Transfer of "Class B" Beer and Liquor License - Big Todd's Rumble Inn, 1109 Park Street, Stevens Point, WI, Richard Todd Barden, agent, effective July 22, 2003, previously issued to Backstreet Pub, Arlen L. Kluck, agent.

Ald. Sowieja moved, Ald. Stroik seconded, to approve the Transfer of "Class B" Beer and Liquor License for Big Todd's Rumble Inn, 1109 Park Street, Richard Todd Barden, agent, effective July 22, 2003.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

- F. Application for a Class "A" Beer License - Schierl Sales Corporation at 708 Division Street, Stevens Point, WI, Douglas Curwen, agent.
- Ald. Sevenich moved, Ald. Seiser seconded, for approval of the Class "A" Beer License application for Schierl Sales Corporation, at 708 Division Street, Douglas Curwen agent.

Chairman Phillips asked Police Captain Dowling about compliance with the requirements for a separate room and cash register.

Captain Dowling said the Police Department enforces the ordinance.

Clerk Zdroik explained that the Class "A" Beer license for the Schierl Sales Corporation at 708 Division Street, if approved by the Common Council, will not be issued until the City Inspectors determine that the premises will meet all the building requirements for the sale of Class "A" Fermented Malt Beverages.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

2. Request for a one-day extension for liquor premises:

A. Hilltop Pub & Grill Restaurant - Monday, August 4, 2003, 20th Anniversary Celebration.

B. Partner's Pub - Saturday, October 11, 2003, UW-SP Homecoming.

Ald. Seiser moved, Ald. Stroik seconded, to approve the request for a one-day extension of liquor premises for the Hilltop Pub and Grill Restaurant and Partner's Pub, as outlined above.

A letter received from Dick and Betty Wydeven of Baymont Inn & Suites indicated that they have no objection with the music ending at 11:00 P.M. for the Hilltop Pub & Grill Restaurant anniversary celebration on Monday, August 4, 2003.

C. Bruiser's - Saturday, August 2, 2003, free concert and corn roast at the Farmers Market Square.

Ald. Seiser moved, Ald. Sowieja seconded, to approve the request for a one-day extension of liquor premises for Bruiser's for Saturday, August 2, 2003, free concert and corn roast at the Farmers Market Square, with the following conditions:

1. Will set up as soon as Farmers Market vendors are gone for the day.

2. Event to end at 11:00 P.M. per City ordinance.

3. Double fencing as per sketch. Event organizers will work with the Police Department on location of fencing.

4. Will use a biodegradable soap to wash the grease.

5. Barricades to be the responsibility of the event organizers.

6. Portable toilets will be provided by the bar owners and will be removed immediately following the event.

7. Two contractual police officers will be paid by the bar owners.

8. Bruiser's will request extension of licensed premises for the event. Certificate of Liability Insurance will be provided to the City Clerk's office upon approval of the request.

9. Access point will be on the northeast corner of the Farmers Market.

10. Extra dumpster will be provided by the event organizers.

11. A 40' x 40' stakeless tent will be set up in the area.

Tim Schertz, 244 Bobby's Lane, Stevens Point, one of the event organizers asked if they can use a single fence instead of a double fence. They are even willing to put up a 6-foot fence instead of a 3-foot fence. Mr. Schertz said he is not sure how to anchor a double fence appropriately without it being a mess. He added that there are fifteen alcohol establishments in the area and thirteen are participating in the event. These establishments will contribute financially and with some of their employees.

Chairman Phillips advised Mr. Schertz to continue working with the Police Department and come up with a plan concerning the fencing.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

3. Request to hold a free concert and corn roast on Saturday, August 2, 2003, to be located at the "Farmers Market Square" bordered by the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Building to the west, Main Street to the north and Second Street to the east.

Ald. Sevenich moved, Ald. Seiser seconded, for approval to hold a free concert and corn roast on Saturday, August 2, 2003, to be located at the "Farmers Market Square" bordered by the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Building to the west, Main Street to the north, and Second Street to the east.

Ald. Seiser voiced her concern on the clean-up ending at 3:00 A.M.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

4. Request to hold group yard sale on Saturday, August 2, 2003, from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., on the corner of Strong's Avenue and Main Street, sponsored by the Concerned Citizens of Stevens Point.

Keiko Tanaka, 1534 Illinois Avenue #B, said the Concerned Citizens of Stevens Point are doing this rummage sale as a fund raiser to help Waupaca for Peace pay for a speaker who will be speaking before them. These groups of people have the same reasons for organizing such events, for peace and non-violence, and to help other people. With all the things that she had to go through with this request, Ms. Tanaka does not know if other people would like to do it downtown. It is easier to do it in one's backyard.

Ald.. Sevenich voiced her concern on the placement of the tables as shown in the proposal submitted by the group.

Ms. Tanaka said she did some measuring of the area and felt there is enough space.

Ald.. Molski questioned why the event is not being held in Waupaca since the benefactors of this rummage sale are from that area? The Alderperson feels this will set a precedent and the City will eventually get more of these requests. She added that the City is in the middle of a study to redo that area. The City and Downtown have different plans for this area.

Ald.. Walther echoed Ald.. Molski's sentiment of setting a precedent. The Alderman does not think this is the direction we want to go with our downtown.

Ald.. Rackow said he has reservations about having a group rummage sale in the downtown area. This is a self-organized group and is not a very good idea.

Ald.. Seiser noted this is something new. It is a way of getting people to use downtown and have events there and at the same time supporting the group. A lot of times, this is an empty space, the Alderperson added.

Parks Director Tom Schrader informed the Committee that the Parks Department charges 10% for non-profit and 15% for profit organizations and they are required to put a security deposit when they rent the lodge.

Dave Suchon, 825 Park Street, suggested that the group go to Piffner Pioneer Park where it can be held indoors.

Ms. Tanaka said this is a one-day event that will not create any trouble but instead it will draw people downtown and benefit other businesses downtown. She added the group is conforming with City ordinances as much as possible.

Ald.. Sowieja is concerned about larger items interfering with the bus system.

Ms. Tanaka said they have designated drivers with trucks that will bring items for the rummage sale. When the City bus comes, they will get out of

the way. The people will not be in and out with large items.

Ald.. Stroik understands it is for a worthwhile cause but feels there are other places in the City they can rent for the rummage sale.

Chairman Phillips believes it is setting a precedent. It would be hard to refuse anybody who comes before the Committee later on. He feels this is not a good spot to have a rummage sale.

Ald.. Seiser, on setting a precedent, said we do it all the time when someone makes a proposal. She asked that the Committee look at each request and decide on its merits.

Ms. Tanaka cannot see why it is not right to have rummage sale there when other groups can do it. They plan to display their merchandise nicely so people can be drawn to the sale. They will conform to any rules set by the City. She believes it is their downtown too.

Ald.. Seiser said the concern is the idea of a rummage sale, not the group. It might not look nice in that area.

Ald.. Sevenich suggested there are a few areas downtown that the group should contact and see if they can utilize the space.

Ald.. Seiser moved, Ald.. Sevenich seconded, to approve the request from the Concerned Citizens of Stevens Point to hold a group yard sale on Saturday, August 2, 2003, from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., on the corner of Strongs Avenue and Main Street.

Ayes: Ald.. Seiser.

Nays: Chairman Phillips, Ald.. Sevenich, Sowieja, Stroik.

Motion failed.

5. Request to keep Racing Homing Pigeons - 2325 Wyatt Avenue.

Matt Carlson, 2325 Wyatt Avenue, the requestor, showed some pictures of his pigeon operation. He informed the Committee that he has been racing pigeons since he was in 7th grade and up until he was in college.

Community Development Director Gardner said that he has no objection to the request.

Clerk Zdroik noted that the neighboring property owners within a 100 feet radius from the location where the pigeons are being kept were notified of this meeting.

Ald.. Sowieja said this is located in his district and he has not heard any comments from his constituents in that area. He asked the Inspection Department that it be reviewed periodically.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

6. Request to close a portion of Pine Street between Wisconsin Street and Brawley Street on Saturday, August 2, 2003, for a summer block party.

Ald.. Sowieja moved, Chairman Phillips seconded, for approval of the request to close a portion of Pine Street between Wisconsin Street and Brawley Street, on Saturday, August 2, 2003, for a summer block party.

The necessary barricades will be the responsibility of the event organizers.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

7. Recommendation on Inspection Report.

Ald.. Sevenich moved, Ald.. Stroik seconded, to accept the June Inspection Report and place it on file.

Ayes,all; nays, none. Motion carried.

8. Adjournment - 6:55 P.M.

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