



NORTHAMPTON LICENSE COMMISSION

City Hall, Office of the Mayor

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COMMISSIONERS

Brian Campedelli, Chair

Natasha Yakovlev

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Annie Lesko

alesko@northamptonma.gov

MEETING MINUTES

January 3, 2018

City Council Chambers, 212 Main Street

4:00 p.m.

1. **ROLL CALL:** Commissioner Campedelli and Commissioner Yakovlev were present. Commissioner Reall was absent.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by Commissioner Campedelli at 4:04 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDING: made by Commissioner Campedelli

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - None

3. **APPLICATIONS FOR SHORT TERM LIQUOR LICENSES**

Greater Northampton Chamber of Commerce

Date/Time: February 7, 2018, 5-7 p.m.

Place: Christopher Heights, 50 Village Hill Drive

Event: Chamber Networking

Type: Wine & Malt

Fee: \$61.00

Date/Time: May 9, 2018, 5-7 p.m.

Place: Click Workspace, 9 ½ Market St.

Event: Chamber Networking

Type: Wine & Malt

Fee: \$61.00

Date/Time: October 3, 2018, 5-7 p.m.

Place: Chamber of Commerce, 99 Pleasant St.

Event: Chamber Open House Networking

Type: Wine & Malt

Fee: \$61.00

Kristin Cole, Operations Manager for the Chamber of Commerce, was present on behalf of these applications.

Before beginning she offered an amendment to the first application on the agenda. Christopher Heights, who was hosting the February event, backed out last minute. Kristin asked if the Commission would approve the license with the location TBD. Once the location is determined Kristin will let Annie know of the location.

The host secures Liquor Liability as well as TIPs certified servers for each event.

Commissioner Yakovlev made a motion to approve all three short term liquor license applications; February 7 with the location to be determined; May 9th; and October 3rd. Commissioner Campedelli seconded. The motion passed unanimously 2-0.

4. APPLICATIONS FOR SHORT TERM LIQUOR LICENSE

Northampton Neighbors, Inc.

Date: January 26, 2018

Time: 4:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Event: Members Party

Place: Northampton Center for the Arts, 33 Hawley St.

Type: Wine & Malt

Fee: \$61.00

Gerard Paquin, treasurer for Northampton Neighbors, Inc., was present on behalf of this application. Northampton Neighbors will be renting a room inside the Arts Trust building for this event. There will be a TIPs certified server from Hugo's at the event.

Commissioner Campedelli made a motion to approve the short term liquor license. Commissioner Yakovlev seconded. The motion passed unanimously 2-0.

5. PUBLIC HEARING ON AN APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF WINE AND MALT RESTAURANT LICENSE AND TRANSFER OF COMMON VICTUALLER AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE

From: Joseph Gionfriddo d/b/a Caminito Argentinean Restaurant

To: Doc Doyle and Company, LLC d/b/a Caminito Argentinean Restaurant

Proposed Manager: Brian Doyle

Premise: 7 Old South Street, Northampton

Brian Doyle, Manager and Owner of the LLC, is purchasing Caminito to continue service as is.

Commissioner Campedelli opened the public hearing at 4:14 p.m.

Commissioner Yakovlev asked whether Mr. Doyle had worked at the restaurant before. He stated he has not. Commissioner Yakovlev asked what his past experience was. Mr. Doyle stated that he had been a bar manager for the past 11 years in New York.

Commissioner Campedelli closed the public hearing at 4:16 p.m.

Commissioner Yakovlev made a motion to approve the application for transfer of wine and malt restaurant license and transfer of common victualler and entertainment license. Commissioner Campedelli seconded. The motion passed unanimously 2-0.

6. NOTIFICATION OF KENO MONITOR TO EXISTING KENO-TO-GO AGENT

Jim's Variety

15 West Farms Road

Florence, MA 01062

A certified letter was sent to Jim's Variety informing them of their past due taxes. They had until Noon on January 3, 2018, (today) to satisfy their past due taxes and they have not done so.

Commissioner Yakovlev made a motion to object to the placement of a KENO Monitor to the existing Keno-To-Go Agent at Jim's Variety until they satisfy their outstanding taxes. Commissioner Campedelli seconded. The motion passed unanimously 2-0.

7. UPDATE REGARDING LICENSE FOR OLDWAY LEASING, INC. D/B/A CLARION HOTEL

Eileen O’Leary Sullivan, a partner of Oldway Leasing, Inc., was present to offer an update. She stated they intend to sell the license. She has made contact with a few interested individuals. Eileen stated she knows the license is important to Northampton and will be actively trying to sell the license as soon as possible.

8. UPDATE ON 2018 LICENSE RENEWALS

City Solicitor Alan Seewald was present to provide an update on the Fair Wage issue surrounding license renewals. Northampton is first community to do this and the issue of getting a wage bond is trickier than expected.

Mr. Seewald found a bonding company through Whalen Insurance and has drafted a proposed bond. The bonding company needs the Commission to determine an amount for such bond.

Mr. Seewald explained that Hao Chen, Inc. d/b/a Sakura Buffet and Fortune Creative, LLC d/b/a Oriental Taste, who violated fair wage laws, did not do so intentionally but out of negligence and were negligent in how they handled their payroll. The intention with requiring a wage bond is not to re-penalize the businesses but to attempt to protect the employees to make sure they are getting paid properly.

Mr. Seewald stated that the Commission will need to hold a special meeting for two reasons. First, the Commission will need to determine a fixed amount for the bond. Second, the licenses in question will expire at the end of January and will need to be extended in order for the establishments to have ample time to secure a wage bond.

The clerk informed the Commission there are four establishments that have not renewed yet:

- The Elm Street Inn, LLC, has informed the clerk they will be sending the paperwork as soon as possible.
- 1812 Paint & Body, has sent in paperwork and a payment however the Collector’s office does not accept checks from this establishment. 1812 Paint & Body must furnish a money order for the renewal fee. They also have back taxes that they will need to satisfy before license can be renewed and issued.
- Ray Learned from Affordable Used Cars has back taxes due to the Collector’s Office. The clerk has not received any paperwork either. The clerk spoke with Mr. Learned however he has yet to make any payments.
- Cooley Dickinson Coffee Shop has not sent in their renewal fee. The clerk is in receipt of all the paperwork but is waiting on the payment.

The clerk informed the Commission that she was letting them know of these renewal issues in case there is a need to take action in the future.

9. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RESIGNATION OF LICENSE COMMISSIONER

Commissioner Campedelli presented a resignation letter by Commissioner Elaine Reall. Commissioner Reall has resigned from her duties as License Commissioner effective December 20, 2017.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Annie Lesko informed the Commission that Notch 8, Inc. d/b/a Union Station, Tunnel Bar, The Deck and Platform Bar offered the ABCC \$4,405.00 in lieu of license suspension. The ABCC accepted their offer and the Notice of Suspension for a period of two (2) days to serve is reconsidered and compromised by the fine. The notice of license suspension is rescinded.

A request was made by Annie Lesko for special meeting sometime in January to discuss and determine a bond amount required in order to secure a wage bond, as well as to extend the expiration dates for the two establishments that are required to present such bond. The meeting date, time and location is to be determined and will be posted on the website.

11. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 6, 2017, MEETING

Commissioner Yakovlev made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 6, 2017 meeting as written. Commissioner Campedelli seconded. The motion passed unanimously 2-0.

12. ADJOURN

Commissioner Campedelli moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:38 p.m. Commissioner Yakovlev seconded. The motion passed unanimously 2-0.