



**LIQUOR COMMISSION MINUTES
WEDNESDAY JUNE 19, 2013
4:00 P.M.
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Deputy Liquor Commissioner VonRohr called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE was led by Police Chief Greg Nelson

ROLL CALL

The following members were present for roll call: Liquor Commissioner Laurie Barra, Deputy Liquor Commissioner Rick VonRohr, Police Chief Greg Nelson, Fire Chief Kurt Nelson, Commission Member Dale Vonderheide, and Commission Member Buster Hanley.

Also present: Attorney Sue Bosich – Corporation Counsel

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Commission Member Vonderheide to approve the Agenda for June 19, 2013, seconded by Commission Member Hanley. On roll call vote all present voted Aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Commission Member Hanley to approve the Liquor Commission Minutes of May 23, 2013, seconded by Liquor Commissioner Barra. On roll call vote all present voted Aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT/COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

Nick Filarski, Mike Gardner and Diane Walters were present. Their opinions remain the same as last meeting. They did not speak at this meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion: Convenience Store/Gas station liquor sales

Police Chief Nelson made a motion to have a 3-person sub-committee to be appointed by the Liquor Commissioner to research and propose a change to Title 3, Chapter 3 of the Liquor Code and to propose to go to the full liquor commission then to Council, 2nd by Liquor Commissioner Barra.

Discussion:

Police Chief Nelson feels the Commission needs to take their time with this change and do all the research on this as they can and do it right the first time. Chief Nelson listed possible ideas: 1) impact on public safety, 2) is this going to affect other current liquor license businesses, 3) will this change the character of Pekin. Chief Nelson is in favor of expanding, but wants to study this and give this careful consideration. Commission Member Hanley is not in favor of expanding into neighborhoods where alcohol will be sold. Other businesses had to go by our strict guidelines; Beck's Oil, Quick Pic, and grocery stores. Commission Member Vonderheide would be in favor of having the code as it is, thinks leave the code alone. Liquor Commissioner Barra agrees with the Chief of Police. Doesn't think Public Safety would be an issue and it won't change Pekin. The 3 sub-committee members could make this more restrictive. Fire Chief Nelson is in favor of having a sub-committee. Can identify areas, be more restrictive. Liquor Commissioner VonRohr states he does not think the Commission should be involved in the way of free market. Doesn't believe this would be a safety issue. The sub-committee is the right way to go.

Roll Call: VonRohr, Aye, Police Chief Nelson, Aye, Fire Chief Nelson, Aye, Liquor Commissioner Barra, Aye, Commission Member Hanley, Nay, Commission Member Vonderheide, Aye. Motion passed. Liquor Commissioner Barra will recuse herself from the sub-committee.

Liquor Commissioner Barra will have the sub-committee formed by next meeting.

Firearms Restrictions for License's:

Police Chief Nelson informed the commission that Peoria and Tazewell County passed the Constitutional Concealed Carry with a valid FOID card. Chief Nelson would like to see all Class A liquor Licenses to have to post a sign "No Firearms". Signs would have to be a certain size and visible to all patrons.

Police Chief Nelson made a motion for Corporation Counsel Sue Bosich to draft a letter asking all Class A liquor Licensee' to post "No Firearms" signs in their establishments until an Ordinance change could take effect. This would be immediately. 2nd by Fire Chief Nelson. All in favor, motion passed.

Police Chief Nelson made a motion for Corporation Counsel Sue Bosich to draft a change to our Ordinance to require all Class A liquor licensee' to post "No Firearms" allowed. Copy the State Statute and get on the next Council Meeting Agenda. 2nd by Fire Chief Nelson. All in favor, motion passed.

2% Food and Beverage Tax

Melanie, Wastewater Supervisor emailed Liquor Commission late returns on 6/14/13. This was for Roxy's Lanes. The notice went to his Accountant and not the business owner. Paula, per Sue McMillan's instruction called Chuck Geier to inform him of the April late return.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Commission Member Hanley asked about the 2 Notices of Hearing from the State Liquor Control Commission and if we bring them before our Liquor Commission. Attorney Bosich stated the Hearing is set for August 15th and she has it marked on her calendar and will follow up. They usually end up making arrangements to pay and then the Hearing is dismissed. We can have a Hearing on this as well.

Liquor Commissioner Barra advised the Commission that she was informed Mr. Liu with Hibachi Sushi Buffet of Pekin, Inc. did not have a State Liquor License. Do we need to ask each licensee' to bring in a state license at renewal time? Deputy Liquor Commissioner VonRohr thinks he had a State License, just never went down to pick it up. We have the liquor license and his business is closed. New owners take over July 1st. They have not submitted an application for alcohol.

Fire Chief Nelson made a motion to adjourn, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned 4:35 P.M.

Next Meeting will be Wednesday, July 25, 2013 at 4:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Paula Gensel