



**LIQUOR COMMISSION MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2015 AT 4:00 P.M.
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM
111 SOUTH CAPITOL STREET
PEKIN, ILLINOIS 61554**

Deputy Liquor Commissioner VonRohr called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE led by Police Chief Greg Nelson.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: Fire Chief Kurt Nelson

Also present: Attorney Sue Bosich – Corporation Counsel and City Clerk Sue E. McMillan.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by Liquor Commissioner Barra to approve the Agenda for November 6, 2014, seconded by Member Greg Nelson. On roll call vote all present voted Aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF LIQUOR COMMISSION MINUTES

Motion made by Liquor Commission Member Hanley to approve the November 6, 2014 liquor commission minutes, seconded by Liquor Commission Member Vonderheide. On roll call vote all present voted Aye. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

**ALDI INC.
HEATHER MOORE, VICE PRESIDENT
DWIGHT, ILLINOIS 60420**

Heather Moore, presented the Commission with a power point handout. She went through each power point slide and explained Aldi's position on selling alcohol in their Pekin store. They would have a separate area in the store for boxed wines and beer only and use a separate cash register to check out. Aldi's can modify the store to however the commission wants them to have it; to buzzers if someone walks in or rope off that area, etc. Aldi's also has a very rigorous training program for their employee's.

Discussion: Commission Member Hanley had concerns of all the other grocery stores had to conform to our Liquor Code. Did Aldi ask about building on when they leased or purchased? Heather Moore explained it was not feasible to build on as they are leasing at that location. Chief Greg Nelson stated the issue has come before the Commission before as a gas station/convenience store and the Commission voted it down. He is not against recommending a change in our Liquor Code to go before the City Council. Liquor Commissioner Barra stated the Commission will take this under advisement for further discussion.

TWELVE PUTT, INC. DBA BUFFALO WILD WINGS
BRETT NELSON
3333 COURT STREET
PEKIN, ILLINOIS 61554

Brett Nelson, Operations Manager for Buffalo Wild Wings. Asked the Commission if there was any questions or concerns. Liquor Commissioner Barra asked if they were recruiting for a manager that will reside in the City of Pekin. Mr. Nelson stated they have several applicants that live in Pekin and there would be a good possibility. He understands when they hire a manager they would need to come in for a background check. They are looking for a June 1st opening date. Mr. Nelson was instructed once the building is done, employee's hired, and application is filled out to appear before the Liquor Commission again for his liquor license.

Police Chief Greg Nelson made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Litigation, seconded by Deputy Liquor Commissioner VonRohr. On roll call vote all present voted Aye. Motion carried.

The Liquor Commission went into Executive Session to discuss Litigation at 4:20pm.

Police Chief Greg Nelson made a motion to return to the regular schedule Liquor Commission meeting, seconded by Liquor Commissioner Barra. On roll call vote all present voted Aye. Motion carried.

The Liquor Commission resumed it's regular Liquor Commission meeting at 4:40pm

Police Chief Greg Nelson made a motion to not approve a liquor license to Pinnacle Security Services, LLC dba Erb's Bar and Grill at 251 Derby Street, Pekin, IL, seconded by Liquor Commissioner Barra. On roll call vote all present voted Aye. Motion carried.

Discussion: Police Chief Greg Nelson stated that one of the background checks does not meet a section of our Liquor Code under "Good Character". Scott Helms, one of the business partners stated the person was found not guilty and if he could ask for a rebuttal.

PUBLIC INPUT/COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

There was no one present for Public Comments.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Attorney Sue Bosich: Landline phones/Phone number and Criminal background checks. Attorney Bosich stated that State Statute states every liquor establishment has to have a landline. All licenses's have to comply. On the Criminal background checks. It is the descretion of the Liquor Commissioner on who gets background checks for Corporations. Liquor Commission regularly request that managers of the large corporations have back ground checks done. VonRohr asked Attorney Bosich to look into the matter if an applicant has had several DUI's if they would meet our Liquor Code as being in Good Character standing.

Questions arose on Council Members owning a liquor establishment or having an interest in owning an establishment. Our present Code states they can not hold office.

Deputy Liquor Commissioner VonRohr: Video Monitoring Recordings; Commission asked the Attorney if we can have this added into our Liquor Code. Where all liquor license establishments would have to have video monitoring and preserve for 30 days. Cost can range from \$400 to several thousand dollars. Chief Greg Nelson agree's that this would be very helpful to the Police Department, was wondering if all new applications would require this, the others would be grandfathered in. Commission members didn't see a problem with having all new applicants have the video monitoring devices. VonRohr suggested that video monitoring would cover the licensed premise and customer area and possibly the beer garden area if the establishment had a beer garden. VonRohr made a recommendation for Attorney Bosich to draw up an Ordinance and present to Council for the 2nd meeting in February. VonRohr informed the Commission that this is the last meeting for Police Chief Greg Nelson. He has served 10 years on the Liquor Commission and will be missed and wish him the best of luck.

There was no further business. Liquor Commissioner Barra made a motion to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 5:07 P.M.

Next Regular Meeting Thursday, February 26 at 4:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Paula Gensel